

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2004

Family unit head urges caution in troop shifts

Warns that schools and health care could suffer Page 3



Double fault

U.S. tennis stars Venus Williams,
Andy Roddick bounced in third round

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Golden girl

American shooter
Kim Rhode wins
second career gold
in double trap

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**Radical cleric reportedly
OKs Najaf peace plan** Page 5

U.S. soldiers take cover Wednesday during a gun battle with insurgent snipers near the cemetery in Najaf, Iraq. Fighting continued despite word of a peace plan with radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Phish fallout: Fans who turned away at the direction of police because of muddy conditions inside the site of last weekend's Phish festival in Coventry, Vt., will be offered a refund. Dave Werlin, president of the concert promoter Great Northeast Productions, said it troubled him that people who obeyed police in turning around missed the concert, only to learn that many other fans reached the site by parking and walking to the festival.

Jackson case: Child molestation allegations by a 12-year-old boy provided authorities with legal justification for a massive search of Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch last year, a judge ruled, rejecting defense efforts to challenge the search as illegal.

In his ruling Tuesday, Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville short-circuited a plan by Jackson's lawyers to call multiple witnesses in an effort to show that prosecutors had insufficient information to justify the invasion of Jackson's estate last November.

Oklahoma bridge collapse: A Mississippi towboat company committed two violations of federal law in the 2002 Interstate 40 bridge collapse that killed 14 people, according to a U.S. Coast Guard report.

KOTV in Tulsa, Okla., reported Tuesday that the U.S. Coast Guard has determined Magnolia Marine Transport Co. did not allow towboat captain enough rest and required him to work too long before the crash.

Federal law prohibits towboat captains from working for more than 12 hours straight. Captain William Joe Dedmon worked 14 hours the day before the May 26, 2002, crash, KOTV said.

Toxic ground zero: The Bush administration showed "reckless disregard" for public health after the World Trade Center collapse by failing to warn people of the health risks of breathing toxic smoke and dust at ground zero, an environmental group said Wednesday.

Hundreds of people were sickened because of mistakes made by the government during the recovery and cleanup effort following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack, the Sierra Club said in a report on the environmental and health impacts of the collapse.

New Jersey governor: As pressure mounts on both sides of the political aisle for New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey to step down before his self-imposed deadline, Sen. Jon Corzine has begun to explore the idea of running to replace the embattled governor.

Corzine was discussing the possibility of being the party's candidate in a special election with state Democratic leaders Tuesday and gauging support from special interest groups, according to two sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Halliburton contracts: The Pentagon backed off its threat not to pay a Halliburton Co. subsidiary for troop support work, instead giving the company more time to justify its bills to the Army.

The decision late Tuesday was the latest in an ongoing exchange between the mili-



Japanese electronics maker Seiko Epson Corp.'s "Micro Flying Robot," about the size of a giant bug, is adjusted by Wang Wei, a Chinese postgraduate student studying mechanical engineering at Japan's Tsukuba University, during its demonstration at the company's Tokyo office Wednesday. The company hopes the robot will be used for security, disaster rescue and space exploration in the future.

tary and the oil services conglomerate once led by Vice President Dick Cheney.

Earlier Tuesday, Houston-based Halliburton had said the government planned to withhold 15 percent of its monthly payment, or about \$60 million a month, from the company's KBR subsidiary on a contract to provide meal services, laundry, mail and housing for soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

World

Venezuela election: Opposition leaders refused Wednesday to participate in an audit of a referendum that failed to oust Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, dealing a setback to international efforts to dispel allegations of vote-rigging and prevent more upheaval in the politically divided country.

Opposition leaders claimed they had unearthed new evidence of fraud, which they insisted the audit — proposed by former President Jimmy Carter and the Organization of American States — would fail to detect.

North Korea nuclear talks: Australia's foreign minister urged North Korean leaders on Wednesday to remain involved in six-nation talks on its nuclear program, amid concerns that Pyongyang may pull out of preparatory meetings for the next round of negotiations.

"I'd been, on arriving here, concerned that the six-party talks process was stalling, and I hoped that we'd been able to add some substantial momentum to that process," Alexander Downer said, according to Australian pool video of his visit received by Associated Press Television News.

In Seoul, South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon said Wednesday that efforts were being made to still have the working talks, but participants had yet to reach an agreement.



A broken wooden Serbian coat-of-arms from the Communist era is seen on the stand of Serbia's republic Parliament in this 2003 photo. Serbia's Parliament voted on Tuesday to restore its ancient coat-of-arms and a 19th century anthem.

Serbia coat of arms: Serbia restored its 19th-century anthem and ancient coat of arms Tuesday, harkening back to its royal history as its people struggle with economic and social hardships.

The emblems represented Serbia before it merged in 1918 with its Balkan neighbors to form Yugoslavia.

The 183 lawmakers in Parliament voted unanimously to adopt the once-royal symbols, despite criticism they were inappropriate for the republic sharing sovereignty with Montenegro.

"These symbols are Serbia's true ones," said Parliament Speaker Predrag Markovic, who insisted Serbia needed to replace its current coat of arms featuring the five-pointed communist Red Star.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Correction

A story in Wednesday's editions of Stars and Stripes about additional pay and benefits for servicemembers omitted key information. The Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger Pay was raised to \$225 per month in October 2002 on a temporary basis. Congress is working to make that change permanent.

**Comics, horoscopes
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Troop move plan raises issues for families

BY SANDRA JONTZ AND
LISA HORN

Stars and Stripes

Quality of life for servicemembers could suffer if the Pentagon does not plan properly as it embarks on its plan to redeploy troops from Europe and Asia to stateside bases, one expert said.

Most public schools surrounding military bases in the States already are at or near capacity, with budgets that won't be able to accommodate an influx of students, said Joyce Raezer, director of government relations for the National Military Family Association.

"It happens with [military construction] and it's going to happen with reposting. They're going to have the students coming back, mostly from Germany, to various installations, and a lot of the schools already are at capacity."

"There are so many, so many issues," she said. Raezer wondered whether the military will have

Some spouses say being back in States would bring stability; strain on schools as kids return a concern

enough medical providers to treat the influx of servicemembers and their families, and will the surge cripple the already-delayed access retirees suffer in getting treatment.

President Bush announced Monday a 10-year plan to return to the United States as many as 70,000 troops now living overseas, and 100,000 family members and civilian employees.

Even if the moves don't begin until fiscal 2006, as Pentagon officials have said, that still is not enough time for school districts to build schools, buy buses or hire teachers, Raezer said.

And the military's need to wait on actions of the Base Closure and Realignment Commission, which won't get Pentagon recommendations until May 2005, complicates matters, she said.

"The Army is not saying yet where these people are going to go, and school districts need to know."

The redeployment plan will save the military money in the long-term, Raezer said.

"It's a lot cheaper to have bare-boned bases [overseas] if you don't have to have schools, don't have to have quality of life such as family housing, youth programs and such. But they're still going to need to provide those services back in the States."

The plan, in reality, could mean more family separations, said Kathy Moakler, deputy director of government relations NMFA.

"We agree that it certainly will add to stability as far as location goes, but there's a double-edged sword. This also means there will be more frequent deployments and more family separations."

Perspective

For families in Europe, it's a matter of perspective.

Those with children, such as Jessica Sufin of Katterbach, Germany, feel they can better handle their spouse's long deployments if they are back in the United States, where they are closer to the support network of family and friends.

Single soldiers, however, seem to appreciate the opportunities afforded to soldiers overseas, primarily the opportunity to travel and explore different cultures.

"I can handle all the six-month deployments they throw at me," said Sufin, who has three young children and a fourth child on the way. "But these real long [deployments] are a pain in the butt [when you have] kids."

Out of the four years her hus-

band has been stationed in Germany, they have been separated for roughly 2½ years, Sufin said. He is currently in Iraq, serving a 12-month tour with the 1st Infantry Division's 4th Brigade.

Spc. Jonathan Dorsheimer is a tank driver for Bldingens 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division. Before coming to Germany, Dorsheimer, who was flipping burgers at Burger King, said he bought into the military's promise to see the world.

If it weren't for the Army, "I probably never would have left the United States," Dorsheimer said. "I do think it would be good for stability in terms of kids [to go to one school]."

Maggie Minniti, originally from Gdansk, Poland, has been married to a Darmstadt, Germany-based soldier, Sgt. John Andrew Minniti, for a year. After being separated for most of the year they were engaged, she is glad to live now wherever he is stationed.

SEE MOVE ON PAGE 4

Reduction plans likely won't affect USAF

BY MARNI MCENTEE

Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The Air Force in Europe has made it through the Pentagon's latest troop-reduction plans unscathed, at least for now.

That's because U.S. Air Forces in Europe — the air component for the U.S. European Command and a key provider of air assets to the Middle East — had already completed a major transformation, a USAF spokesman said.

The command has pared down its presence to one-fifth of the bases it had in the mid-1980s and reduced its forces by more than half, USAF spokesman Col. Edward Worley said.

What remains — 63,000 active-duty airmen, civilians and their families, five main operating bases in England, Germany and Italy, and five forward operating bases — is needed for expeditious access to current hot spots and potential problem areas, Worley said.

"We're not going to be able to fly from the United States to anywhere in the world without stopping someplace," for fuel, crew rest and cargo, he said. "We just don't have the tanker or airfield capability to do that," Worley said.

Although early reports indicated that F-16 squadrons in Aviano, Italy, and Spangdahlem, Germany, may be relocated, a Pentagon official said Monday that those bases would remain — for now.

Talks continue with Turkey about whether any U.S. fighter squadrons would move to Incirlik — where the Air Force recently expanded as a tanker and logistics hub for operations in the Middle East. But USAF officials didn't want to speculate as to how those talks would turn out.

"We're always looking at our structure," Worley said.

At the center of the Air Force basing



TERRY BOVO/Stars and Stripes

A fighter line crewmember ducks down out of the blast from the engines of an F-15E at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, in May 2001, when flights were using the base for Operation Northern Watch. Already pared down to one-fifth of its presence in Europe in the mid-1980s, U.S. Air Forces in Europe seems to have escaped the Pentagon's latest troop-reduction plans unscathed.

strategy in Europe is Ramstein Air Base, which also is undergoing a massive transformation. It already serves as an important cargo base and a vital way station for air and wounded troops from around Europe and the Middle East on their way to nearby Landstuhl Regional Medical Center.

But by December 2005, Ramstein will take over all airfield capability from Rhein-Main Air Base, making it and Spangdahlem Air Base the key European airfield hubs.

The \$600 million "Rhein-Main Transition Program," at times makes Ramstein and Spangdahlem look like one big construction zone. But the sound of graders and backhoes should be beautiful music to the local businesspeople whose livelihoods rely on the 44,000 Americans in the Kaiserslautern area — the largest community of Americans overseas.

"What that should tell people is that Ramstein's position as a major European airfield hub is pretty well assured for sometime to come," Brig. Gen. Rosanne Bailey, commander of the 435th Air Base Wing, said

Wednesday.

In fiscal 2003, the Kaiserslautern military community pumped nearly \$1.29 billion into the area's economy, according to an annual economic impact report released in February.

"We're not going to be able to fly from the United States to anywhere in the world without stopping someplace."

Col. Edward Worley

Spokesman, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Although Germany would be hit hard by the proposed removal of some 70,000 U.S. troops in the coming years, the decision to keep the Kaiserslautern-area installations is good news, Kaiserslautern Lord Mayor Bernhard Deubig said in an e-mail to Stars and Stripes on Wednesday.

"For Germany as a whole, the withdrawal of U.S. troops will mean a certain loss of stability and security and, naturally, will

cause considerable economic problems in the affected areas. The city and county of Kaiserslautern therefore are all the more pleased to hear that this region will apparently not be affected," the e-mail stated.

Deubig, who led a delegation of regional leaders to Washington, D.C., last year to lobby for keeping troops in the country, said that the American presence in the region had "an enormously positive effect on the local population's attitude and has encouraged a more open-minded approach to the challenges of globalization."

In all, five Air Force and 10 Army installations are in the Kaiserslautern military community.

The 21st Theater Support Command, a major logistics hub, is the largest Army asset in the area that also apparently has survived the chopping block, a EUCOM official said Tuesday.

In short, he said, Ramstein and the other installations around it are in "the perfect geostrategic location."

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Politicians hope relocation plan delays BRAC

BY TARA COPP

Scraps Howard News Service

WASHINGTON — Members of Congress who want to ensure that military bases in their states don't close say President Bush's plan to move 70,000 troops stationed in Europe and Asia back to the United States strengthens their case.

But supporters say stateside bases must go through a closure-and-realignment round, known as BRAC, next May so Pentagon officials will know where to send the returning troops.

"Those who oppose it will argue, 'How can we close bases when we are bringing 70,000 troops home?'" said Ken Becks, a defense analyst with Business Executives for National Security, a pro-base-closure policy group in Washington. "But I think BRAC still needs to go on, maybe even more now than ever."

It could be a tight fight.

Before the relocation plan was announced, the House had narrowly passed a two-year delay. That measure is part of the 2005 defense authorization bill, which is still being negotiated with the Senate.

And even though leaders of the Senate Armed Services Committee — including its chairman, Sen. John Warner, R-Va., strongly oppose a delay, the whole Senate was just two votes short, 49-47, of including the two-year delay in its own authorization bill.

Fighting base closure isn't a party-line issue, even though Bush and Democratic presidential nominee Sen. John Kerry disagree on the matter.

Bush strongly supports a 2005 round of base closings and has threatened to veto any defense bill that includes a delay. Kerry has said a delay is necessary to account for the Iraq war's effect on military needs.

For the last several years, the high stakes of the impending base-closure round have been clear to Congress. The Pentagon says it has about 25 overseas bases more military facilities than it needs, and Rumsfeld is set on cutting that excess.

But the real effect to delay base closings is being felt by House Republicans and Democrats defending home-town bases.

For members of Congress who have one of those 425 military bases in their districts, the idea that a quarter of them may close has created an intense effort to win military funding. When the House bill to delay base closings first came up, 34 members quickly signed on as co-sponsors.

The effect of the Bush relocation plan can already be seen in the positions of some members of Congress.

Sen. John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas and member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, has 17 bases at stake in his home state.

Although he continues to support a round of base closings for 2005, he said he will make sure the Pentagon takes into account a base's potential to house returning troops before any decision is made.

"As the [Department of Defense] makes its BRAC recommendations, defense officials should consider how the pending decision to bring several thousand troops to the United States from overseas bases will affect the needs of the military," Cornyn said. "This consideration is a prerequisite, in my opinion, for any future action on the BRAC process, and the Pentagon has assured me that it will."



AP

Kerry knocks troop relocation

In VFW speech, candidate says plan could hinder U.S. security

BY NEDRA PICKLER

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry on Wednesday criticized President Bush's proposal to recall up to 70,000 foreign troops as a hastily announced plan that raises more doubts about U.S. intentions than it answers.

"Nobody wants to bring troops home more than those of us who have fought in foreign wars," Kerry said. "But it needs to be done at the right time and in a sensible way. This is not that time or that way."

Bush announced his plan to bring home troops from Cold War-era bases in Europe and Asia on Monday before an earlier session of the same gathering of 15,000 members of the VFW. The president said the repositioning of forces would help save money on maintaining bases overseas.

Kerry singled out for criticism Bush's plan to cut 12,000 of the 37,000 U.S. troops in South Korea.

"Why are we withdrawing unilaterally 12,000 troops from the Korean Peninsula at the very time we are negotiating with North Korea — a country that really has nuclear weapons?" Kerry asked.

Kerry quoted Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona as saying that North Korea is probably more dangerous now than since the end of the Korean War in 1953.

"This is clearly the wrong signal to send at the wrong time," Kerry said.

Kerry argued that Bush's policy would dangerously reduce forces at a time when the nation is fighting the al-Qaida terrorist network in 60 coun-

tries across the globe.

"Let's be clear — the president's vaguely stated plan does not strengthen our hand in the war on terror," he said.

"It in no way relieves the strain on our overstretched military personnel. It doesn't even begin until 2006 and it takes 10 years to achieve."

And this hastily announced plan raises more doubts about our intentions and our commitments than it provides real answers."

Kerry's campaign cited a three-month-old Congressional Budget Office report that said pulling back troops from overseas would produce at best only small improvements in the United States' ability to respond to far-flung conflicts. The report also said a large reduction of the U.S. military presence overseas could cost \$7 billion upfront, although annual savings could be more than \$1 billion.

Pentagon officials who spoke on condition of anonymity this week said the CBO study used different assumptions than the president's redeployment plan. They said the amount of savings for the Bush plan could not be calculated until officials determine precisely which units will return to the United States, what domestic bases they will use and what overseas installations will be closed.

Pentagon officials also say plans to trim U.S. troops in South Korea would

not give North Korea an advantage. Military officials have said that advances in U.S. military firepower and a stronger South Korean military mean there can be more military power in the south with fewer soldiers. In response to Kerry's criticism, the Bush campaign released a list of statements from Republican senators, former military officers and others praising the president's proposal as essential to fighting new threats facing the United States.

"John Kerry's opposition to troop realignment demonstrates a backward-looking view that blindly embraces the status quo and ignores the realities of the post-9/11 world," said retired Gen. P.X. Kelley, who commanded the Marine Corps from 1983-1987.

Kerry received a polite if not overwhelmingly positive reaction from the VFW. Large portions of the crowd applauded the president's proposal to protect veteran's benefits and with many points he made about Iraq and terrorism. But there was a clear divide, with scores of veterans sitting with their arms folded while others clapped.

One man heckled Kerry, calling him a liar, as VFW sergeants at arms admonished him.

"I'll say it myself. He's a liar," said John Ranson of Port Thomas, Ky., a 57-year-old Vietnam War veteran who sat a few feet away from the heckler.

But there was no shortage of Kerry supporters, including some who voted for Bush in 2000. "He's got a mess overseas," Dale Hall, 49, of Franklin Park, Ill., said of Bush. "I stand behind the troops, of course, but he's not done a good job."

Move: Soldier: 'I want my family to go with me wherever go'

MOVE, FROM PAGE 3

"Being able to travel in Europe makes it worthwhile. We don't have any kids," Minniti said. "But for me, being with my husband is most important. I would prefer losing my job than not being with my husband."

Spc. Thomas Renner, who is married and has a 2-year-old daughter, wants his family to be wherever he is — be it in Europe or the States.

"I want my family to go with

me wherever I go, except a war zone," he said. "Even two months is too long to be away from them." said Renner, referring to the possibility that in the future, troops may deploy to the States to remove bases in Eastern Europe for months at a time.

"It's going to be terrible if we leave," said Dorshimer's Army buddy, Pfc. Matthew Mitchell.

"Germany is an amazing place," Brandi Hennessy's husband left the Army "because of the time he was spending away from

home," she said of Spc. Neal Hennessy, last with the 1st Armored Division in Germany. "I know that we would rather move more often, than have him deployed more often. It's not the States to remove bases in Eastern Europe for months at a time."

"We loved living in Germany, and would do it again in a heartbeat. I think that having a home base is a good idea, but that there are other things the Army could do first to make military life with a family better."

"For one, more training at their home base. My husband was infantry, and his unit spent the vast majority of their days on past moving lawns, cleaning barracks and playing video games in single soldiers' rooms. If there was better leadership and better planning, a lot of the training that soldiers are sent away for could be done at home."

"Home base would force the Army to send them away from home more often," said Hennessy, who now lives in Visalia,

Calif. "I personally would rather spend a few years in Germany, and have my husband there with me most of the time, than spend his entire career in the U.S. and have him miss our children growing up. Six months is a long time in the life of a toddler. My husband missed our son's first birthday, first steps, first words and many more firsts."

Steve Ulewiler and Kevin Dougherty contributed to this report.

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Al-Sadr reportedly agrees to Najaf peace deal

BY ABDUL HUSSEIN AL-ABEIDI

The Associated Press

NAJAF, Iraq — Radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr accepted a peace plan Wednesday to end fighting in Najaf that would disarm his militiamen and remove them from a holy shrine where they are hiding out, according to an al-Sadr spokesman. However, al-Sadr wanted to negotiate how the deal would be implemented.

The cleric's decision came just hours after Iraqi Defense Minister Hazem Shaalan said the government was prepared to raid the revered Imam Ali shrine as early as Wednesday to root out the militants.

The agreement could spell the end of the two-week resurgence of violence in this holy city that has enraged many of the country's majority Shiites and posed the greatest test yet for the fledgling government of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

The cease-fire deal was presented to al-Sadr's aides in Najaf on Tuesday by an eight-person delegation sent by the Iraqi National Conference, meeting in Baghdad. Al-Sadr himself declined to meet with the mediators. The proposal demanded the cleric's militia drop its arms, withdraw from the shrine and transform itself into a political party in exchange for amnesty.

Sheik Hassan al-Albari, an official at al-Sadr's office in Baghdad, said the cleric had agreed to the plan but wanted the delegation to return to Najaf to negotiate how it would be implemented and to ensure his militants would not be arrested. He said al-Sadr had other, more minor conditions, but did not elaborate.

The Bush administration reacted cautiously to reports of al-Sadr's agreement to the deal.

Iraqi authorities also are pressing the cleric to limit his participation in public life in Iraq to peaceful use of the political process, State Department deputy spokesman Adam Ereli said.

"Whether al-Sadr accepts that and follows through on that is something that remains to be seen," Ereli said.

There is no indication yet that the militia are withdrawing, Ereli said. "Obviously, we would welcome such a move, and it's critical to restoring calm in Najaf," the spokesman said.



AP

U.S. soldiers run through a school courtyard during a gun battle with insurgent snipers near the cemetery in Najaf, Iraq, on Wednesday. Fighting in Najaf continued despite reports Wednesday that radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr agreed to a cease-fire deal.

Al-Sadr has made contradictory statements in the past, and a previous cease-fire with his Mahdi Army militia that ended a spring uprising two months ago collapsed two weeks ago into street battles throughout the city.

Clashes marked by gunfire and explosions continued in Najaf even after the agreement was announced Wednesday. Fighting in Najaf has killed six people and wounded 23 others since Tuesday morning, Hussein Hadi of Najaf General Hospital said Wednesday.

The U.S. military says the fighting in Najaf has killed hundreds of militants, though the militants deny that. Eight U.S. soldiers and at least 40 Iraqi police have been killed as well.

The gathering in Baghdad of more than 1,000 religious, political and civic leaders

was extended a fourth day into Wednesday because of disagreements over how to elect a National Council, which is to act as a watchdog over the interim government until elections in January. Smaller groups agreed they would not have enough of a voice.

In other developments:

■ In volatile Anbar Province, a Marine with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force was killed in action Tuesday during "security and stability operations," the military reported. In Basra, one British soldier and one militant were reported killed in fighting.

■ Turkey Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul said one of two Turkish truck drivers kidnapped over the weekend in Iraq has been rescued and was returning home. Mustafa Koksak was abducted Saturday near Mosul after delivering bottle water to a U.S. base in Baghdad.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Tuesday, 943 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of these, 703 died as a result of hostile action and 240 died of nonhostile causes.

The British military has reported 64 deaths: Italy, 18; Spain, 11; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, six; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 805 U.S. servicemen have died — 594 as a result of hostile action and 211 of nonhostile causes.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A U.S. soldier was killed Monday in a series of grenade and explosives attacks in eastern Baghdad.

■ A Marine was killed in action Tuesday in Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Killed Sunday by hostile fire in Najaf, Iraq; assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

■ Army 2nd Lt. James Michael Goins, 23, Bonner Springs, Kan.

■ Army Spc. Mark Anthony Zapata, 27, Edinburg, Texas.

■ Killed Sunday in Anbar province; assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Pfc. Fernando B. Hannon, 19, Wildomar, Calif.

■ Marine Pfc. Geoffrey Perez, 24, Los Angeles.

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MPs fatally shoot 2 detainees to stop brawl at Abu Ghraib

By TODD PITMAN

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. military police shot and killed two detainees and wounded five others in an effort to put down a massive brawl that broke out Wednesday at the notorious Abu Ghraib prison facility west of the Iraqi capital, the military said.

Troubles began when several detainees attacked another inmate with rocks and tent poles in a fight that quickly escalated, drawing in 200 inmates at a tented detention camp within the sprawling compound, said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, the U.S. military's spokesman for detention operations in Iraq.

Detainees hurled rocks at U.S. soldiers, igniting "verbal warnings" and then a volley of rubber bullets from U.S. military police, Johnson said.

The military decided to use lethal force because one detainee

risked being killed by fellow inmates, he said.

"A determination was made that if lethal force wasn't used, this detainee was going to be killed," Johnson said. "So lethal force was used in the form of aimed shots against these most involved in the direct violence against the individual who was being attacked."

One of the detainees was killed on the spot and a second, critically wounded, died of his wounds later at a military hospital.

It was not known what caused the fight.

Abu Ghraib was at the center of a scandal over allegations that American prison guards abused Iraqi detainees. The scandal broke in April when photographs of hooded and naked prisoners were made public, unleashing a torrent of international criticism.

U.S. authorities have released thousands of detainees from Abu Ghraib in the last several months.

Whistleblower may be in protective custody

Family: Darby got threats for revealing Iraq abuse

BY DAVID DISHNEAU
The Associated Press

HAGERSTOWN, Md. — The Army reservist who tipped off investigators to abuse of Iraqi prisoners by his fellow soldiers is in protective military custody because of death threats, family members said Tuesday.

Sp. Joseph M. Darby, 24, received the threats

after his role in the scandal was publicly revealed in May, his sister-in-law, Maxine Carroll, said.

Carroll said in a telephone interview from her home in Windber, Pa., that she doesn't know where Darby is, and she refused to put a reporter in touch with his wife, Bernadette, who is Carroll's sister.

Darby's mother, Margaret T. Blank, of Corriganville, said soldiers moved his and his wife's belongings out of their nearby apartment weeks ago. She said she gets a weekly call from the Army Reserve's 99th Regional Readiness Command "telling me my son's OK and my daughter-in-law's OK, and that's all I've heard from them."

A spokesman for the command did not return a call from

The Associated Press.

Seven members of Darby's unit, the 372nd Military Police Company of Cressapton, have been charged with abusing detainees at Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad last fall. One of them, Sp. Jeremy C. Svits, has pleaded guilty and been sentenced to a year in prison.

Darby testified by telephone

Aug. 6 at a pretrial hearing for Pfc. Lynndie England. He said he agonized over whether to turn in photos of his fellow soldiers' acts, but ultimately did so because he feared the mistreatment would continue.

Monday, Carroll appeared on ABC television's "Good Morning America" with Bernadette Darby, who said she was surprised by the vicious response of some friends and neighbors to what she considered an act of bravery.

"People were — they were mean, saying he was a walking dead man, he was walking around with a bull's-eye on his head. It was scary," she said.

Carroll said someone wrote "Iraq" on the fence outside her home.

"People were — they were mean, saying he was a walking dead man, he was walking around with a bull's-eye on his head. It was scary."

Maxine Carroll
Sister-in-law of
Sp. Joseph M. Darby

High above it all



JASON CHUDY/Stars and Stripes

An Apache helicopter flies Monday evening over Baghdad. Helicopters are a familiar sight these days.



1st Cavalry Division GI awarded the Silver Star

BY JASON CHUDY
Stars and Stripes

A Baghdad-based 1st Cavalry Division soldier was recently awarded the Silver Star Medal for his actions after insurgents ambushed his patrol, leaving two soldiers dead and five wounded, according to a coalition news release.

Pfc. Christopher Fernandez received the medal from 1st Cav commander Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli during a ceremony Monday.

During the May 5 ambush, insurgents detonated a roadside bomb by the patrol's last Humvee and then fired on the soldiers. The patrol returned fire with small arms and machine guns.

Fernandez, a Tucson, Ariz.-native, returned fire with his M-249 squad automatic weapon, stopping only to reload.

Seeing that the damaged Humvee's M-240B machine gun wasn't in use, he ran through enemy fire to man the gun.

Fernandez used the M-240B to suppress enemy fire, even though the damaged gun was burning his hands. He manned the machine gun for about 10 minutes until the dead and wounded soldiers were evacuated.

This was the first Silver Star awarded to a 1st Cavalry soldier during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 1st Cav is based at Fort Hood, Texas.

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudy@mail.strips.osd.mil

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Lawsuit contests extended military service

Attorney argues Congress has not declared war or a state of national emergency

BY DAVID KRAVETS
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A California Army National Guard soldier sued the military in federal court over stop loss, which could keep up to 20,000 Army personnel beyond their time of service.

It was the first lawsuit challenging extended military service following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The stop-loss order also was enacted during the buildup to the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

The soldier's complaint comes

as the Army struggles to find fresh units to serve in Iraq.

Almost every combat unit has faced or will face duty there or in Afghanistan, and increased violence has forced the deployment of an additional 20,000 troops to the Iraq region.

The Army says its stop-loss program is necessary for a cohesive military with seasoned personnel, although it has been criticized as contrary to the concept of an all-volunteer military force.

The soldier's attorneys did not release his name, age or home-

town to protect his family's privacy.

"It's not that John Doe is a coward by any means," said the sergeant's San Francisco attorney, Michael Sorgen on Tuesday.

He said his client, who was also ordered to stay in Iraq last year beyond his enlisted commitment, suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, and his deployment has been put on hold.

According to the lawsuit, the soldier has more than a decade of service with the Marines, including combat in Iraq and Somalia.

Last year, after returning from Iraq, he agreed to re-sign with a one-year commitment to the National Guard.

But he recently was notified that his service had been extended by as much as two years, and that he could soon be heading to Iraq for another combat tour, according to court documents.

Sorgen said the soldier could be involuntarily retained in the military during a time of war or national emergency, but "Congress has not declared war or a national emergency."

The lawsuit notes the Sept. 11 commission's report said there was no "collaborative operational relationship" between terrorists and Iraq plotting attacks against the United States.

Lt. Pamela Hart, an Army spokeswoman, said stop-loss is vital for a strong military.

"When soldiers consider serving next to one that they've known, they know the person's strengths," she said. "It's much safer and comforting to know you are serving a war with someone you can count on."

No court date has been set.

Alcohol, drug problems lead to private's jail time

Kitzingen, Germany-based soldier who refused to deploy to Iraq also received bad-conduct discharge

BY STEVE LIEWER
Stars and Stripes

WÜRZBURG, Germany — A Kitzingen-based soldier who refused to go to Iraq because of his alcohol and drug problems will serve 15 months in jail, a military judge ruled Wednesday.

Pvt. Octavious Newton, 20, of the 12th Chemical Company, pleaded guilty to charges of failing to show up for duty, missing a troop movement and using marijuana. Judge (Col.) James Pohl, also handed him a bad-conduct discharge.

"I didn't want to deploy," Newton told the court. "I told my chain of command I'd been drinking."

Newton said he grew up in a rough neighborhood in Atlanta.

As a teenager, he discovered the Army's Youth Challenge Program, which helps

"Pvt. Newton has a serious problem, and he needs help. He's 20 years old. He's got his whole life in front of him."

Capt. Debra Quanbeck
Newton's attorney

troubled youths earn a high school diploma and trains them for the military with drills and physical training.

Newton arrived in Kitzingen, his first duty post, in late 2002.

His friend, Staff Sgt. Octavious Rogers, described him as a "good, quiet, soft-spoken" soldier who did his job well.

Newton earned an Army Achievement Medal for his work at a training exercise in Grafenwohr.

But, Newton said, he was struggling with alcohol and drug addiction.

Last year he was demoted for three alcohol-related infractions, and in September he sought help from the Army's substance abuse counseling program.

He was put on medication, he said, that made it difficult to sleep and gave him vivid nightmares.

Newton, his counselors and his superiors agreed he would attend a six-week treatment program at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, if he followed certain conditions.

But he violated a restriction Feb. 7, just days before his unit's scheduled deployment to Iraq.

Nine days later, when his company com-

mander ordered him to go, Newton refused.

Left with the rear detachment to face disciplinary action, he twice failed urinalysis tests after smoking marijuana.

"Pvt. Newton has a serious problem, and he needs help," his attorney, Capt. Debra Quanbeck, told the court, asking that he be discharged and sent home.

"He's 20 years old. He's got his whole life in front of him."

The prosecutor, Capt. Sara Holland, asked that Newton be jailed for longer than his unit's scheduled one-year deployment.

"He refused. He could have gone. He had no reason not to," Holland said.

"Plenty of people in his unit didn't refuse. They did what they were supposed to."

E-mail Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.strips.osd.mil

Messages of Support

★ Dear Soldier: My name is Melissa. I am 9 years old and I am in the 3rd grade. I am so glad people like you are brave enough to go over to Iraq and fight for freedom and safety for the world. Thank you for keeping me safe!

★ We wish to send all of our troops our prayers for a victory and safe journey home. God Bless. From the office techs students at Wallace in Hanceville.

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Citizen sues Salvadoran president, government for sending troops to Iraq

BY DIEGO MENDEZ
The Associated Press

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — A private citizen has filed a lawsuit against Salvadoran President Tony Saca, the Defense Department and Congress for agreeing to send a new contingent of troops to Iraq, the Supreme Court confirmed Tuesday.

Jose Francisco Garcia submitted his complaint on Monday, hours before the Defense Department announced that the 380 troops would not depart on Tuesday as planned because of a transportation problem.

The Supreme Court did not indicate immediately whether it would hear the case. The court usually issues such decisions within 15 to 30 days after receiving a petition.

Sending new troops to Iraq endangers citizens because of "possible repercussions, revenge and the hate of Islamic radical groups," Garcia told a news con-

Sending new troops to Iraq endangers citizens because of "possible repercussions, revenge and the hate of Islamic radical groups."

Jose Francisco Garcia

A private citizen suing the Salvadoran government

ference Tuesday. "And practically, even the sovereignty of El Salvador would be in danger."

Garcia said he also presented a second lawsuit charging that the troops' deployment is unconstitutional under the law, which he said mandates the armed forces

to protect Salvadoran territory "not to get involved in the territory of another country."

Saca and other political cabinet members were in Los Angeles on Tuesday and could not be reached for comment on either the lawsuit or the issue of unconstitutionality.

Meanwhile, the third wave of Salvadoran troops to be sent to Iraq since August of last year was on standby Tuesday due to logistical problems.

Military spokesman Col. Eduardo Figueroa said in an interview late Monday that the air space over Iraq is restricted and Salvadoran officials were unable to coordinate a time for the planes carrying their forces to land in Iraq.

The troops are scheduled to go to the city of Najaf, where fierce fighting has been taking place between U.S. and rebel Iraqi forces. Their mission is to help with rebuilding efforts, not to participate in combat.

Mistakenly closed breaker blamed for Burger King fire

Report details circumstances of Aviano Area 1 blaze

BY KENT HARRIS

Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — A mistakenly flipped breaker switch apparently triggered the January fire that destroyed the Burger King restaurant on base.

Stars and Stripes received three pages of an Air Force safety investigation into the fire via the mail on Tuesday. Officials at the Air Force Safety Center, the releasing authority for the report, said the rest wouldn't be released to the public.

But one of the three pages sent contains a "factual summary of circumstances."

It states: "On 12 Jan 04, a (Civil Engineer Squadron) electrician closed an open circuit breaker in substitution #140 triggering a power outage to several facilities located on Area 1 at 1325, to include Burger King. The Burger King exhaust fan stop extracting heat and smoke from the broiler grease extraction system and duct work."

"A Burger King employee shut off the gas to broiler unit. However, flames in the broiler continued and ignited the grease dripping from the hood filters above the boiler system. The fire spread throughout the duct system into the suspended ceiling."

No injuries were reported in the fire, which occurred at the end of the lunch hour. But the stand-alone structure — valued at \$1.1 million — was destroyed.

The remains eventually were carted away and a parking lot now sits on the site, with no evidence the restaurant — which opened in 1986 — ever existed. In the meantime, Area 1 has gained two new eating options — Subway sandwiches and Anthony's Pizza. Both opened in a new mini-mall earlier this summer.



KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

The Burger King building on Area 1 at Aviano Air Base went up in flames in January. A recently released safety report says the fire was triggered by a worker mistakenly flipping off a breaker switch, which prevented the restaurant's exhaust fans from working.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service already operates another Burger King restaurant on the flight line area and still is considering whether it will replace the restaurant it lost.

In interviews, base officials discussed the power outage shortly after the fire but didn't connect it at the time to the start of the blaze.

They said the loss of electricity had thwarted efforts to put the fire out faster because pumps weren't working. It took about four hours to extinguish. Another problem was a shortage of water pressure, meaning firefighters couldn't use jets from more than one truck at a time to battle the flames. Both problems could be helped by the opening of a new water station — with backup generators — in Area 2 nearby. But that facility has yet to open.

Officials at Aviano said they couldn't comment on the report, citing the authority of the safety center on the matter. The base also refused to identify the person involved in the incident or state

whether judicial or administrative charges come into play.

In a cover letter included with the three pages released, Col. George Clark, staff judge advocate at the safety center, said Defense Department and Air Force instructions prohibit the public release of analysis, findings and recommendations from safety investigations.

The Italians also investigated the incident. But Stripes was told last month that the report wouldn't be released until the local prosecutor determined if there were charges to file. And there was no timetable available on that process.

E-mail Kent Harris at: harris.k@mil.estripes.osd.mil

Top bombers



Right: An F-15E Strike Eagle from the 492nd Fighter Squadron at RAF Lakenheath, England, is prepared Wednesday for its role in the Excalibur bombing competition in England. Squadrons from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, and Aviano Air Base, Italy, along with two from the Royal Air Force, joined the 48th Fighter Wing at RAF Lakenheath, in the competition, which ends Thursday.

Below: Capt. Jonathan Laatsch, a weapons systems officer, prepares Wednesday for the Excalibur bombing competition being held in England.

PHOTOS BY RON JENSEN
Stars and Stripes



3rd soldier sentenced in Ansbach drug case

Stars and Stripes

WÜRZBURG, Germany — A third Ansbach-area soldier has been sentenced to jail and discharged in connection with an off-base drug party last March, according to the 1st Infantry Division's staff judge advocate.

Cpl. Timothy Vernon, 25, a military policeman assigned to the 235th Base Support Battalion, pleaded guilty to charges of possessing, using and distributing marijuana, psilocybin mushrooms and the party drug Ecstasy, said Staff Sgt. Connie Fässler, a court reporter.

Vernon invited two friends, Pfc. Kirby Smith and Spc. Tyler Swafford, to his house in Ansbach the evening of March 6 to play video games and drink beer, according

to a court document. A female friend of Swafford's later allegedly brought over the mushrooms and Ecstasy — a drug combination called a "hippie flip" — and marijuana. The three soldiers then ingested the drugs but were later turned in by a fourth soldier who was present but didn't join in the party.

Vernon told the court he had been under stress because of marital problems and a traumatic recent deployment to Afghanistan, Fässler said.

Judge (Col.) James Pohl sentenced Vernon to four months in jail and ordered him reduced to the lowest enlisted rank.

Smith and Swafford, both court-martialed earlier, each received 12-month sentences, demotions to E-1, and bad-conduct discharges.



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Americans growing skeptical of Iraq war

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nine months of chaos and casualties in Iraq since Saddam Hussein's capture have taken a heavy toll on American opinion of President Bush's decision to go to war.

Last December, when Saddam was caught, public support for Bush's decision to go to war was 2-to-1 in favor. Now the public is evenly divided on whether the war was the right thing to do or whether it was a mistake.

Older people, minorities, people with lower incomes, residents of the Northeast and Catholics are among those increasingly skeptical of the war effort, according to Associated Press polling.

These shifts in public sentiment reflect the difficulties in Iraq — including a death toll nearing 1,000 U.S. soldiers, the violent insurgency against the new Iraqi government and U.S. forces and the failure to find weapons of mass destruction, which was among the central justifications for Bush's decision to go to war.

Both Democrats and indepen-

dents lost enthusiasm for the war during the period since Saddam was captured. Almost nine in 10 Republicans still say it was the right thing to do.

Overall, about half in an August AP-Ipsos poll said they think the war in Iraq was the right thing to do. But even some of those people have doubts about what has happened since the invasion.

About six in 10 said they feel President Bush does not have a clear plan for bringing the Iraq situation to a successful solution, according to a recent Pew Research Center poll.

The Bush administration has struggled since December against a violent insurgency in Iraq that has killed soldiers. A flare-up of violence in southern towns in April led to increased combat operations. A cease-fire with one militant group recently fell apart, leading to more clashes in Najaf.

Despite the handover of political power to an Iraqi interim government on June 30, the U.S. military continues to lead the military fight in Iraq.

In addition, U.S. weapons inspectors continue to search but have found no weapons of mass destruction.

In the August poll, those most likely to say the Iraq war was the right thing to do were Republicans, Southerners, those who earn more than \$50,000 a year and young adults.

Yet among many different groups of Americans, a majority of people now say the war was a mistake. Those groups include minorities (65 percent), Northeasterners (60 percent), Democrats (80 percent), people who make less than \$25,000 a year (57 percent) and Catholics (51 percent).

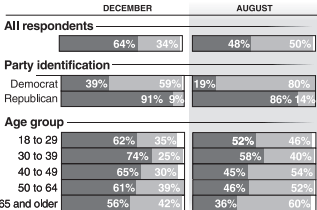
The most recent AP-Ipsos poll of 1,001 adults was conducted Aug. 3-5 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points, larger for subgroups like older Americans.

The Iraq question about the United States' decision to go to war was asked of a half sample with a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage points, and the other half sample was asked whether the "Bush administration" made the right decision to go to war.

Skepticism growing over war in Iraq

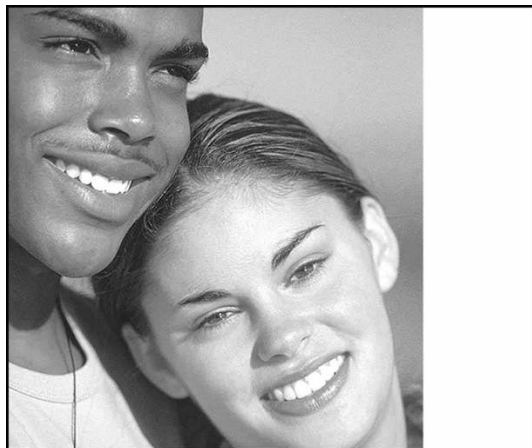
Last December public support was 2-to-1 in favor of President Bush and his decision to go to war in Iraq. Now, the public is evenly divided, according to a recent poll. Thinking about how things have gone in Iraq since the start of the war, do you think the United States

... made the right decision to go to war ... made a mistake



NOTE: Poll taken from 488 people between Aug. 3-5; margin of error \pm 5 percentage points; for subgroups margin of error slightly larger

SOURCE: Ipsos-Public Affairs for AP



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California Seabees report for Rota duty

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Four has arrived in Rota for its regularly scheduled European deployment, while more than 200 of the unit's Seabees will head to Iraq.

The Port Hueneme, Calif.-based battalion moved into Camp Mitchell last week, taking over for the Gulfport, Miss.-based Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74.

Seabee battalions rotate in and out of Rota every six or seven months.

Battalion Four also will send

small detachments to various spots around Europe and the Bahamas during the six-month deployment, including Sigonella, Sicily; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and Souda Bay, Crete, according to a news release.

Some of the projects in Rota include work on a running track and soccer complex in addition to starting a shoreline gap project.

In Iraq, the unit will work on reconstruction and humanitarian aid projects as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

The battalion will be gone from its homeport until February, when Naval Mobile Construction Battalion One takes over.

Bletchley Park's USA Day celebrates American culture

Stars and Stripes

MILTON KEYNES, England — Several events are planned to celebrate USA Day at Bletchley Park, the home of World War II codebreakers who cracked the complex German Enigma code.

The American Garden Trail at the park will be opened as part of the events that start at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

In addition, baseball and American football — complete with cheerleading — will be played. And American food such as hot dogs and Cajun chicken will be available, along with buttermilk pancakes and popcorn.

The trail features several trees that are well-known to Americans. It starts at a giant sequoia tree, symbol of California, which

was planted in front of the park mansion in Victorian times. The trail also features an orange tree from Florida and a lilac tree from New Hampshire.

American jitterbug dancers will perform, and American classic cars will be displayed.

The park was a vital part of the Allied victory during World War II. According to the park's Web site, it was here that codebreakers, who were given no chance to break the code, used the world's first computer to accomplish the impossible and shorten the war, historians believe, by two years.

Up to 10,000 people worked at the park during the war, but it was emptied by 1946.

More information is available at the Web site: www.bletchley-park.org.uk.

IN THE STATES

Senators seek intel leadership changes

BY KATHERINE PFLIEGER
SHRADER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two influential Senate Republicans are putting forward competing proposals to change the intelligence community's leadership structure, despite words of caution from top Pentagon officials.

As Congress works through the August recess to consider recommendations from the Sept. 11 commission, congressional aides said the Intelligence Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and others on the committee may have legislation drafted as soon as this week to create a new national intelligence director — with power to control budgets and hire and fire personnel.

A strong intelligence chief, along with a new National Counterterrorism Center, were the leading recommendations from the commission's report, released last month. The intelligence director would almost certainly take authority away from the Defense Department and CIA.

However, another powerful voice — Senate Armed Services Chairman John Warner, R-Va. — suggested Tuesday that the CIA director's position could be elevated, putting that person on par with Cabinet members. Warner has urged caution in the reform debate, saying changes must ensure military commanders can have confidence in the intelligence they rely on.

"I personally want to proceed, but with great caution, and do what we can to strengthen this system," Warner said, adding that he wants to cause "hopefully no turbulence or disruption in the intelligence system that now — I think — serves this nation reasonably well."

The tide, however, seemed to be turning against letting the Pentagon retain sole control of most of the nation's largest intelligence agencies and toward following the Sept. 11 commission's suggestion that the country needs a higher-ranking intelligence director.

Details of how the proposed national intelligence director's job would remain undecided. Lawmakers plan to hold over a dozen hearings this month alone, including a closed House Intelligence Committee session Wednesday morning.

At a Senate Armed Services hearing Tuesday, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld offered a "cautionary note."

"It's important that we move with all deliberate speed. We need to remember that we are considering these important matters, however, while we are waging a war," Rumsfeld said. "If we move unwisely and get it wrong, the penalty would be great."

Charley's dangerous aftermath

Officials worry deaths, injuries will climb as residents begin cleanup

BY MIKE SCHNEIDER
The Associated Press

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — Bill Nylander survived Hurricane Charley, but the storm still managed to hurt him days after it destroyed part of his hometown.

Nylander burned his leg while trying to repair his roof in the heat of the sun. The 68-year-old retiree needed treatment Tuesday at a medical center set up in four tents outside a hospital closed for repairs.

Until the electricity hums again and the debris is cleared, health officials are worried that there could be more deaths and injuries in the aftermath of Hurricane Charley than during the storm itself.

"We're seeing lacerations, injuries post-hurricane," said critical care nurse Karen Mulvaney. "A lot of people are coming here now because people are now returning to their homes."

In addition to injuries, residents are being sickened by eating spoiled food and contaminated water. They are skipping their prescription drugs and, with no air conditioning and with window screens blown away, exposing themselves to mosquitoes carrying diseases such as West Nile virus.

"It really gets back to getting electricity as soon as possible because that's going to solve a lot of problems," said Tommy Thompson, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Right now there are a lot of heart attacks in people who are going out and cleaning out their property."

On Wednesday, Sanibel Island was reopened to permanent residents for the first time since it was evacuated before the hurricane.

Roads had been cleared of storm debris but



Florida National Guard Sgt. Jose Izray of Daytona Beach, Fla., loads free ice into a car trunk for a resident of Charlotte County, Fla., on Tuesday at a comfort station in Punta Gorda. Victims of Hurricane Charley have been given free water, ice, roof tarps and portable toilets.

there was no power or drinkable water on the barrier island of about 6,000 residents.

Sanibel Mayor Marty Harray said most of the damage to the island's homes was cosmetic, involving missing shingles and shutters and loss of shrubbery and other landscaping.

"People are smiling — they're getting the opportunity to come back and see their homes," Harray said by phone.

The U.S. death toll rose Tuesday from 19 to 20, when an 86-year-old man who had evacuated his home fell and died in a motel. Officials in Charlotte County said three new deaths may be linked to the aftermath of Charley — victims of a crash Monday at an intersection

where the traffic lights were not working. Charley also killed four people in Cuba and one in Jamaica.

For thousands of Floridians, Tuesday was a day when services cut off by Charley's rampage Friday were being gradually — and sporadically — restored. Federal disaster assistance money began flowing, state officials cracked down on price gouging and postal workers handed out mail.

About 493,000 people remained without power Tuesday, state officials said, holding to predictions it could take weeks to fully restore electricity. Nearly 100,000 still lacked local phone service. Storm damage was estimated at as much as \$11 billion to insured homes alone.

Translation errors cast doubt on case against mosque leader

BY MICHAEL VIRTANEN
The Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — A key piece of evidence against a jailed mosque leader accused of supporting terrorism has come into question, with federal prosecutors acknowledging that a note found in a terrorist camp may have been mistranslated.

Yassin Muhiddin Aref is charged with aiding a government informant in a sting operation involving a fake plot to buy a shoulder-fired missile to assassinate a Pakistani diplomat.

The translation discrepancy stems from a notebook that the FBI said was found in a terrorist camp in northern Iraq last summer.

The indictment said an entry in Arabic script referred to Aref as a "commander" and listed his former address and phone number in Albany.

However, FBI translators now have a copy of the original entry and disagree with the earlier conclusion, saying the word was in the Kurdish language, not Arabic, and actually means "brother," prosecutors told the judge in a letter.

Aref is the imam of the Masjid As-Salam

mosque in Albany. Also charged earlier this month in the sting operation was Mohammed Mosharef Hossain, 49, one of the mosque's founders.

The notebook was cited last week by Magistrate David Homer as part of his rationale for refusing to set bail for Aref.

Defense attorneys say the translation error undermines the entire government case, and that both men should get out on bail.

"It's a travesty," lawyer Terence Kindlon said.

U.S. Attorney Glenn Suddaby said authorities are not yet sure which translation is correct, but said it doesn't change the case.

"It doesn't change their behavior. It doesn't change the significance of where this notebook was found," he said Tuesday.

Aref, a native of Kurdistan, and Hossain, who is from Bangladesh, face up to 70 years in prison if convicted.

Also Tuesday, prosecutors said they would try to restrict the release of some information relating to the case.

The United States believes that disclosure of this material would raise issues of national security that the court should address before any of this material is provided to the defense," Suddaby said in a court filing.

Casino considered near Disney

GARDEN GROVE, Calif. — City officials have talked to casino developer Steve Wynn about building an Indian casino and resort just blocks from Disneyland.

The city, located in Orange County, is considering selling as much as 45 acres to the Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians, a San Diego County tribe that wants to build a resort with shopping, restaurants and live entertainment comparable to Las Vegas.

Casino industry analysts and local officials said they don't believe the deal would be approved. Already, there is significant opposition.

'Blair Witch' crewmember dies

MIAMI — Neal Fredericks, the cinematographer of the low-budget but successful horror film "The Blair Witch Project," died in a plane crash while filming a movie over the Dry Tortugas, his agent said. He was 35.

Divers recovered Fredericks' body inside the submerged plane Sunday, a day after the crash about 70 miles west of Key West.

The pilot of the single-engine Cessna and three other members of his film crew escaped and were rescued, the Coast Guard said.

Fredericks collaborated with writers Eduardo Sanchez and Daniel Myrick on "The Blair Witch Project," an intense, atmospheric horror movie.

The 1999 film, shot with hand-held cameras, was hailed as a low-budget-to-blockbuster success story, made for almost nothing while grossing more than \$240 million worldwide at the box office.

From The Associated Press



President Bush holds up a cheese platter that he purchased while visiting the Cady Cheese Factory on Wednesday in Wilson, Wis.

More education aid vowed for reservists

The Associated Press

CHIPPewa FALLS, Wis. — Hoping to gather enough support in northwestern Wisconsin to turn the state his way in November, President Bush said Wednesday he will push for extra education benefits for National Guard members and reservists.

Men and women who have "put their jobs on hold" to serve their nation deserve support in return, Bush told hundreds of supporters.

Bush said he would increase monthly education benefits for National Guard members and re-

servists who have been on active duty for more than 90 consecutive days.

The proposal came with the race between Bush and Democrat John Kerry extremely close in Wisconsin. Bush lost the state by fewer than 6,000 votes four years ago.

The Kerry campaign said there have been problems with pay and other matters for National Guard troops during the Bush administration. Spokesman Phil Singer said, "We need a president who is committed to protecting National Guard and reservists every day, not just in the days before the election."

Powell sort of keeps distance

By BARRY SCHWEID

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Colin Powell is walking a thin line between boosting his boss for re-election and maintaining a traditional distance from the rough and tumble of election-year politics.

Probably rounding out his last months as a prominent public servant, Powell has declared he is obliged as secretary of state not to engage in "parochial debate."

At the same time, he stoutly defends President Bush's policies, including the one on which his contest with Democrat John Kerry may turn — the war in Iraq.

The decision to overthrow Saddam Hussein with massive U.S. force had Powell's support — although he put more emphasis on first taking the case to the United Nations. And he continues to defend it even though weapons of mass destruction were never found in Iraq.

In a speech Monday before the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Cincinnati, Powell stood squarely behind the president. "A sworn enemy of the United States," Powell said, "Saddam Hussein could have passed on that weapons of mass destruction capability to terrorists."

Kerry, as a U.S. senator, voted for the war. But as a presidential candidate, he is challenging Bush's approach as go-it-alone unilateralism that cost the United States important European support.

He also accused the president of an inclination to take pre-emptive action, even while saying he would not rule out taking such action himself in certain situations.

Powell has publicly disagreed with Kerry's characterization of Bush's approach. Is that politicking by the secretary of state? Or is it expounding on U.S. foreign policy, as secretaries of state do even in election years? It could be a matter of perception. Still, Powell, on the advice of the White House, will skip the Republican National Convention, which no sitting secretary of state in recent memory has attended.

Henry A. Kissinger, having served as secretary of state for Republican Presidents Nixon and Ford, spoke at the 1980 GOP convention that nominated Ronald Reagan against Democratic incumbent Jimmy Carter.

Kissinger slashed at Carter, accusing his administration of "drift, confusion, retreat and weakness in our foreign policy."

He also described Carter's approach to world problems as "diplomacy of incoherence." No matter



Secretary of State Colin Powell, pictured at a summit meeting in Abuja, Nigeria, in July, said Monday that he stood squarely behind President Bush when he said Saddam Hussein could have passed on weapons of mass destruction capability to terrorists.

that the platform Reagan ran on opposed arms control agreements with the Soviet Union that Kissinger had supported.

State Department spokesman Adam Ereli said last week that "on White House instruction, Secretary Powell as well as others among the Cabinet, will not attend" the Republican convention, which opens Aug. 30 in New York City.

"This is in keeping with past practice," he said. And so it is, so far as secretaries of state are concerned.

But being in Bush's Cabinet does not automatically disqualify officials from campaigning.

Commerce Secretary Donald Evans, who was Bush's campaign chairman in 2000, will attend the convention, spokesman Ron Bonjean said. Education Secretary Rod Paige is scheduled to speak at the convention. Paige, who is black, is expected to make the case that Bush's education agenda helps poor and minority children.

With the economy rivaling Iraq as the most delicate issue in the Bush-Kerry race, Treasury Secretary John Snow is campaigning for the president in states where the contest is close.

Faith leaders: How would Jesus vote?

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Just a few miles from a Texas office where President Bush served as state governor, a panel of religious experts weighed a question with relevance to many people of faith: How would Jesus vote? It's a complex topic that can't be boiled down to simple political terms, said religious leaders who attended a Texas Faith Network conference in Austin on Tuesday.

James C. Moore, co-author of a book on Bush's presidency, drew

laughter and applause when he offered his view to the moderator to left-leaning crowd of about 250 clergy and lay leaders.

"If ever there were a bleeding-heart liberal, it was Jesus Christ," Moore said at Congregation Agudas Achim synagogue. "I think the carpenter from Galilee was the original Democrat."

As the November presidential election nears, many at the conference voiced concerns that the conservative religious right dominates discussions of faith and morality in American politics.

They complained that issues such as abortion and gay marriage seem to take priority over hunger, corporate crime and even the war in Iraq.

"The sound bites and the headlines have co-opted people of faith," said the Rev. Tom Heeger, pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church in Manchaca, south of Austin. "It would be a surprise to a lot of folks to discover that there are some very faithful, regular church attendees who aren't going to vote for Bush."

In N.Y., Nader backers file to put him on ballot

By MARC HUMBERT

The Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Supporters of Ralph Nader's independent presidential campaign said Wednesday that they had filed enough petitions with the state to put him on the New York ballot.

In New York, independent candidates for statewide office must submit petitions containing the signatures of at least 15,000 registered voters to qualify for the November ballot.

"The campaign submitted more than 27,500 signatures," said Mark Dunlea, a state Green Party leader assisting the Nader effort.

Should the Nader petitions be certified as valid on

Sept. 27 by the state Board of Elections, he would be on the state ballot as the candidate of the specially created Peace and Justice Party.

Unlike some battleground states, Nader is not expected to be a factor in the New York election where polls show Democratic challenger John Kerry with a large lead over President Bush in the battle for the state's 31 electoral votes.

As the Green Party's candidate for president in 2000, Nader collected just 244,030 votes in New York, compared to 4.1 million for Democrat Al Gore and 2.4 million for Bush.

The deadline for filing independent party petitions for the November election in New York was Tuesday.

Stars and Stripes

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Every service member's commitment to our nation's defense is invaluable.

During the month of September, DefendAmerica.mil and the Pentagon Channel will spotlight some of the many men and women in uniform who joined the armed forces in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the United States.

If you responded to the attack by joining the military and would like us to consider your story for publication, please fill up the form found at:

www.defendamerica.mil/forms/CallAction.html

IN THE WORLD

British court orders terror suspects held

BY JILL LAWLESS
The Associated Press

LONDON — Eight men accused of plotting to commit murder and cause mayhem with radioactive materials, toxic gases, chemicals or explosives appeared in court Wednesday in a case linked to a U.S. terror alert this month.

None of them entered a plea; they were ordered held in custody until a court appearance next week.

Among the defendants was an alleged senior al-Qaida operative also charged with scouting prominent financial targets in the United States, including the New York Stock Exchange, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Prosecution lawyer Sue Hemming said all eight suspects were motivated by "a strong and deeply held ideology" and were willing to carry out extreme acts.

Hemming said police have around a hundred computers and thousands of files to examine as part of what looks as a long and complex investigation.

"We've only hit the tip of the iceberg as far as a lot of this evidence goes," she told the high security Belmarsh Court in south London.

Kirsten Johnson, speaking for lawyers representing six of the defendants, said outside court that "the charges will be fully contested" but "it would be inappropriate to comment further at this stage."

The charges, filed Tuesday after two weeks of interrogation, for the first time officially linked the Aug. 3 arrests across Britain and a series of arrests last month in Pakistan to the Aug. 1 terrorism alerts surrounding the New York Stock Exchange and Citigroup Inc. headquarters, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank buildings in Washington, and the Prudential Financial Inc. building in Newark, N.J.



An armed British police officer looks through the gates of the high security Belmarsh Court in London, as a man carrying terror suspects waits to enter the inner complex Wednesday.

One defendant, Dhiren Barot, 32, was charged with possessing reconnaissance plans for the New York Stock Exchange, the International Monetary Fund, and the Citigroup and the Prudential buildings; and with possession of notebooks containing information on explosives, poisons, chemicals and related matters.

A U.S. official in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Barot is the suspected al-Qaida figure previously identified as Abu Elsa al-Hindi or Abu Musa al-Hindi.

Barot was described as a trusted senior al-Qaida operative who was sent in early 2001 to do surveillance on possible economic and "Jewish" targets in New York on the orders of al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden, according to U.S. interrogations of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the mastermind of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Bomb defused near site of visit between Blair and Berlusconi

BY AIDAN LEWIS
The Associated Press

ROME — Police defused a bomb in a town near Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's villa on the island of Sardinia on Wednesday shortly after British Prime Minister Tony Blair finished a visit there with the Italian leader.

Police officer Giovanni Lopresto, speaking by telephone from the Sardinian city of Olbia, said bomb-disposal experts found and defused a device containing dynamite, a fuse and a timer near a trash can in Porto Rotondo, a few miles from the villa. The bomb was set to explode at 4:30 a.m. local time, police said.

It was discovered after a tip-off from a radical leftist group. Authorities said they did not believe the device was directed at Blair, who left Sardinia several hours before it was set to go off. The explosive had a potential deadly range of about 11 yards, they said.

A caller claiming to be from an extremist group called the Proletarian Groups for Communism phoned in a warning to the island's *Unione Sarda* newspaper late Tuesday, saying the organization had planted two bombs, said Patrizia Mozzi, a journalist from the paper.

Mozzi said the caller gave the location of only one device. She

said the caller told her, "We promised a summer of fire and this is the response to Berlusconi. War against war" — an apparent reference to Italy's role in the Iraq conflict, which leftist groups here fiercely opposed.

Italy's ANSA news agency reported earlier that two explosive devices had been found, but Lopresto, the police official, insisted only one was discovered.

Proletarian Groups for Communism has claimed responsibility for several attacks in recent years, generally aimed at conservative politicians, businesses and union officials. It is one of several domestic political terror groups that have plagued Italy for decades.

Blair left Sardinia on Tuesday evening after a two-day visit at Berlusconi's villa, returning to Tuscany where his family is vacationing. Berlusconi's villa is on the northeastern coast of Sardinia, near Porto Rotondo.

Security was tight during Blair's visit, with police stopping cars traveling on a road near the villa for document checks.

Officers with sniffer dogs patrolled the outskirts of the villa. The measures came amid high security across the country following a series of threats against Italy in the name of radical Islamic terror groups. The threats have been published on Islamic Web sites.

Testimony links Hamburg defendant to 9/11 hijacker

BY DAVID RISING
The Associated Press

HAMBURG, Germany — A Moroccan accused of helping the Sept. 11 suicide hijackers introduced a Sudanese student to a group around lead pilot Mohamed Atta, whose members raged against the United States "because it defends Israel," the student testified Wednesday.

Ahmed Maglad, 30, testified he met defendant Mounir el Motassadeq while living in Hamburg in 1997 and through him met Atta, who he said was "aggressively religious" and was always trying to "prove something."

Maglad told the Hamburg state court that Atta became "too much" for him — one reason he changed schools and moved to Berlin in 1998. In contrast, he portrayed el Motassadeq as firmly allied with Atta.

"Mounir and Atta didn't have any quarrels and Mounir once suggested when I was of a different opinion that I should be quiet," Maglad testified.

He said he also knew Ramzi Binalshibh, the suspected con-

tact between al-Qaida and the Hamburg cell that included three of the suicide pilots.

"Everybody spoke out against the United States because it defends Israel," Maglad said. The Hamburg group believed that the foundation of Israel was unjustified, and the Palestinian conflict was always a topic for Atta.

El Motassadeq's retrial began last week after his conviction for helping pilots Atta, Marwan al-Shehhi and Ziad Jarrah was overturned in March on appeal.

A court ruled then that he was unfairly denied evidence from U.S.-held al-Qaida suspects including Binalshibh.

When the retrial opened last week, the court heard U.S. interrogation summaries in which Binalshibh maintained that only he and the three Hamburg-based suicide pilots — but not el Motassadeq — knew of the plot.

Prosecutors hope witness testimony like Maglad's will offset those statements by showing how closely others were involved with the plotters and their discussions of jihad, or holy war.

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Defense: Evidence in Cole trial not credible

BY AHMED AL-HAJ
The Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen — The defense lawyer representing five men accused of plotting the 2000 attack on the American destroyer USS Cole disputed on Wednesday evidence presented by the prosecution in the case.

Abdul Aziz al-Samawi, defense lawyer for the five men, said the evidence presented by the prosecution "lacked credibility" including the origin of the explosives and boat used in the bombing.

He also questioned the prosecution's insistence on trying in absentia Abd

al-Rahim al-Nashiri, the sixth defendant and the alleged mastermind of the attack.

Al-Nashiri is in U.S. custody at an undisclosed place. Yemeni officials have said they have asked the United States to hand him over.

"This insistence is aimed at making my clients scapegoats in this case," he said.

The prosecutor, Saeed al-Agel, challenged al-Samawi's claim that the Yemeni government was aware that al-Nashiri was in U.S. custody and that authorities have asked for his extradition.

"This is not true. We have no official documents confirming that he is in U.S. custody," al-Agel said, adding that he was not

aware of any official request sent to the Americans to extradite al-Nashiri to Yemen.

Al-Nashiri's court-appointed lawyer, Mohammed al-Azali, also disputed the evidence against his client, and urged the court to dismiss the case.

The Oct. 12, 2000, attack killed 17 American sailors when two suicide bombers rammed an explosives-laden boat into the Cole as it refueled in the southern Yemeni port city of Aden. The attack was blamed on Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network.

Al-Samawi said the prosecution failed to present evidence tracing the boat and explosives used in the bombing to his clients.

He also said that a video camera the prosecution said was used to film the attack was not advanced enough to film the incident, considering the distance between the house the alleged bombers used as a hideout and the location of the Cole. He also cited lack of a tape of the bombing as a further flaw in the prosecution's evidence.

The six accused have been charged with belonging to al-Qaida, forming an armed gang with the purpose of carrying out crimes against the state, resisting authorities and forging documents.

If convicted, the men could be sentenced to death, though that sentence is unlikely.

The trial was adjourned until Aug. 25.

Pakistan ad lists wanted terror suspects

The Associated Press



An advertisement of Pakistan's six most wanted terrorists is seen in a Pakistani newspaper Wednesday in Islamabad, Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan published photos Wednesday of six terror suspects, including a top al-Qaida operative accused of plotting two attempts to assassinate the president, and offered large rewards for information leading to their arrests.

The advertisement published in the country's leading newspapers carried a photograph of Abu Faraj al-Libbi, a Libyan accused by President Gen. Pervez Musharraf of being behind two failed attempts on his life.

Musharraf escaped unhurt in both attacks in December, when terrorists tried to blow up his motorcade on a road near the capital, Islamabad. The first attack did not injure anybody, but 17 people died in the second attack.

Since then, Pakistani police and security agencies have been

looking for al-Libbi and other suspects believed responsible for the two attacks.

On Wednesday, Pakistan offered a reward of \$345,000 each for information leading to the arrest of al-Libbi, believed to be a top al-Qaida operative, and Anjad Hussain, who is best known as Anjad Farooqi, a Pakistani militant who also allegedly played key role in the two attacks.

Four other suspects whose photos were published in the newspapers were Mati-ur-Rahman, Qari Ehsan, Omar Agdas and a man identified as Mansoor with an alias Chota Ibrahim. It was not immediately clear why those four were being sought and differing rewards were offered for their arrests.

The advertisement gave no details about the nature of charges, saying only that the men are and "wanted for acts of terrorism."



Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat addresses a heckler following his speech to a session of the Palestinian Legislative Council on Wednesday at his headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

Arafat responds to government critics, admits to mistakes

BY STEVEN GUTKIN
The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Yasser Arafat acknowledged Wednesday that the Palestinian Authority has made "mistakes," but the rare admission appeared to be aimed more at deflecting criticism about his corrupt government than making real changes.

In a decade at the helm of the Palestinian Authority, Arafat has resisted attempts to get him to fight official corruption, reform the security services and relinquish some of his near-absolute powers. It was difficult to say how sincere he was in the vague comments in a televised speech to parliament, which apparently referred to negligence in the face of graft and not to the authority's role in violence or Mideast peace negotiations.

"There were wrong practices in some institutions, and some misused their positions," he said. "There were not enough efforts to strengthen the rule of law, the independence of the judicial institutions. ... But we have begun measures to solve this."

In the Gaza Strip, meanwhile,

Israel set off an explosion in an olive grove near the house of a senior Hamas activist early Wednesday, killing five Palestinians — at least four of them militants — and wounding seven. The main target of the attack, Hamas activist Ahmed Jabari, escaped with light injuries.

Later in the day, Palestinian militants fired two mortar shells at the Jewish settlement of Nave Dekalim in the southern Gaza Strip, wounding one person, Israeli military sources said.

In his speech to parliament, Arafat acknowledged there is some official corruption, said those engaged in wrongdoing should be prosecuted and reiterated that he would streamline the security forces. However, he gave no specifics.

One of his harshest critics, former Cabinet minister Abdel Jawad Saleh, shouted that Arafat himself was protecting the corrupt.

Arafat got angry, responding with an indignant question: "I'm protecting them?"

Saleh said after the speech that Arafat is not serious about reforms and warned there could be a nonviolent "Palestinian uprising against this authority very soon."

Messages of Support

★ This is for all of the BRAVE young service men and women who are in the Persian Gulf. THANK YOU SO MUCH for all that you are doing and sacrificing to defend our freedom. My thoughts are with all of you every minute of every day. I pray for your safe return. Melissa. Raymond, ME

★ hi jay, we miss you alot hope your safe everything is ok at home we watch the news everyday and night, we worry about you very much, and i met a young girl online with a brother who may be in your unit his name is j. wilkie we talk alot about you guys, well better go say love you and proud of you, dad and mom

★ Guys i love you all and i'm praying that God will bring you all home safe!!!!!! thank you so much for fighting so i can be free-----my dad fought in world war II, i was a baby i never saw him till i was one and a half years, so i love you all so veryyyyy much!!!!!! godbless you all, betty

★ Everyone back at home supports the U.S. soldiers in the Middle East so much, our thoughts and prayers are flooding to you. We have yellow ribbons tied up by the hundreds, and no one can go a few minutes without seeing an American flag, but there's always room for more! I pray for a speedy resolution so we can be at peace, but while you're all there I support Bush and all the brave souls! K. Pillar. Palmdale, CA

★ We here at home support our troops. We live in the greatest country in the world. America is the people, your relatives and friends, strangers that depend on you and the job you do.... and how well you do it. From our TV reports, we know you have a tough fight and are doing it well. Even those who have no confidence in our president have great confidence in you. God bless you and God bless America.

★ We support and love you troops for your sacrifice and commitment to God, self and country. Love - The Boggs Family, Liberty, IN

OPINION

Missing from the campaign trail: Potholes

BY MARY FITZGERALD

The Washington Post

The deputy prime minister punches a man after being pelted with an egg at a party rally. The voters, shaken from their campaign turmoil, cheer as the tussle is replayed on TV. That same day, the prime minister is hanged outside a hospital by an angry voter, and his political rival is forced to abandon canvassing after some protesters turn rowdy. An unlikely farce? No — just another day in the 2001 British general election campaign.

By contrast, the U.S. presidential campaign trail is a far more mundane affair, as seen through the eyes of a visiting journalist from the United Kingdom. With everything so carefully stage-managed and relentlessly on-message, very little is left to chance. At each rally, the candidates appear with a gripe or an awkward question kept very much in arm's length. It's all about the flattering but bland TV shot or photo opportunity.

On the Kerry-Edwards campaign trail last week, I was struck by how little the candidates deviated from the same speeches and banalities they've been trundling out

since the Democratic convention, give or take the odd, rather contrived nod to local tastes — such as Kerry's dropping the name of the local pizza joint or ice-cream parlor.

Unscripted, genuinely spontaneous moments are rare — the only one that stands out is Kerry donning a cowboy hat and a guitar for an impromptu performance of "Johnny B. Goode" in Jefferson City, Mo. It's left mostly to Teresa Heinz Kerry or the Bush twins to inject color and sass in an otherwise lackluster campaign.

The lack of spontaneity fails to dampen the crowd's enthusiasm, however. Far from it. They laugh uproariously when Kerry gives his well-worn "John Edwards was voted Sexiest Politician by People magazine ... I read People magazine" spiel, though they've probably heard it a dozen times.

Many people I spoke to at several rallies were grateful simply to catch a glimpse of "someone who could be president someday," as one woman put it. It's a far cry from the skepticism and suspicion on the campaign trail in the United Kingdom. Anyone pitching a political candidate with the constant refrain "Hope is on the way" would go down like a lead balloon in Belfast.

Political journalists back home complain that it is becoming increasingly difficult to get access to politicians at election time, but compared with the United States it's a piece of cake.

Daily news conferences are the norm in Britain, and Prime Minister Tony Blair has been known to stroll through his campaign plane and have informal chats with the assembled journalists. No access here.

Take, for example, Edwards canvassing



with Barack Obama at a Chicago diner the day after Alan Keyes announced he was running for the Senate. Much to the reporters' chagrin, they were told that neither Edwards nor Obama would take any questions on the Keyes-Obama race, despite it being one of the big political stories of the day.

News conferences on the presidential campaign trail are rare and, with the Secret Service acting as a buffer zone between politicians and reporters, most interaction is reduced to listening to the stump speech delivered a dozen times by the candidates. That, and consuming the stale language of news releases.

Much has been made of the influence of American-style politics on political parties in Britain, particularly on Blair's Labor Party.

Some commentators there lament the move away from good old-fashioned politicking in favor of slickly choreographed campaigns, spin doctors and focus groups. But as the antics of the 2001 election campaign proved, British politicians and voters can still be relied upon for some rough-and-tumble on the hustings. Heinz Kerry would feel right at home.

Fitzgerald, of the Belfast Telegraph in Northern Ireland, is reporting for The Washington Post as a Laurence Stern Fellow.

Playing gay card par for governor's unethical course

BY CAL THOMAS

Tribune Media Services

Add "gayness" to patriotism and religion as a final refuge for scoundrels.

In a remarkable announcement last Thursday, Democratic Gov. James McGreevey said he would resign his office after the November general election because pressure associated with his homosexuality would not allow him to effectively do his job.

Disgraced black political figures have long played the race card to deflect criticism about wrongdoing. Some Republicans have wrapped themselves in the flag or religion for the same reason. Now we have a governor playing the "gay card," garnished with a little religion — a twofold in the self-justification Olympics.

McGreevey is indictable — figuratively and possibly literally — for plenty of things that have nothing to do with his sexual practices or his religion. Corruption was not invented in New Jersey, or by McGreevey, but it has found a bipartisan home there.

McGreevey's reputation as "lover," Golan Cipel, who claims he is not gay and was sexually harassed by the governor. McGreevey put him on the state payroll with a six-figure salary to look after homeland security, despite his having no qualifications for the job.

Cipel is an Israeli citizen and does not have the proper security clearances to access classified documents. McGreevey aides say that Cipel tried to get \$50 million at a "cash settlement" from the governor, as well as his approval for a private medical college in the state.

Then there is William D. Watley. He re-

signed as secretary of the Commerce and Economic Growth Commission during an investigation into his former chief of staff and became a possible conflict of interest surrounding an \$11.5 million government loan (which was ultimately canceled) for construction at the church where Watley is pastor.

Roger Clugh, a McGreevey campaign aide in 2001, was appointed assistant secretary of state but resigned amid accusations that he offered special government treatment to businesses and also threatened businesses in order to raise campaign contributions.

David D'Amiano, a Democratic fund-raiser, is another person connected to McGreevey who's been accused of such practices. He has been indicted on charges that he offered a farmer government fa-

vors in exchange for \$40,000 in campaign contributions.

Both Gary Taffet, McGreevey's chief of staff, and Paul Levinsohn, the governor's chief counsel, resigned, and a federal grand jury is investigating whether their bill-board company benefited financially from their government connections. Taffet has also been charged with insider trading by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

All of this has occurred during a two-and-a-half-year-old administration. But in New Jersey, it's usual business.

Taking religious refuge, McGreevey said he doesn't believe God deliberately keeps people down. He's right. People make their own choices and benefit, or not, based on their decisions.

McGreevey then performed a little theological sleight of hand. He said he believed that "God enables all things to work for the

greater good." That's a reference to Romans 8:28. But McGreevey left out the rest: "to those who have been called according to his purpose."

What about McGreevey's current wife (a former wife left him), who stood beside him and held his hand? We have seen this "stand by your man" tableau before, most recently with Hillary Clinton, but also with Lee Hart (wife of the wanderer Gary Hart) and Eli Barry (former wife of the former Washington, D.C., mayor Marion Barry).

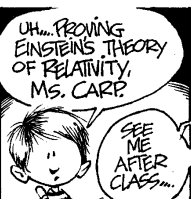
How sad to see these women trotted out to give their husbands moral cover for their immoral acts. They might as well be saying, "I'd like to thank my wife for standing by me and demeaning herself, because I have been a jerk with little concern for HER feelings."

New Jersey needs a political exorcism, but in a state run by a Democrat machine, who can effectively play the integrity card?

Mallard Fillmore



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BY BRUCE TINSLEY

Defraud charges

GA ROSSVILLE — A man was charged with defrauding major retail stores across the Southeast by changing the universal product codes on merchandise.

Ricky W. Nation, 41, of Rossville was arrested and charged in a four-state merchandise spree. Officers confiscated more than 900 pieces of merchandise worth an estimated \$60,000.

Authorities said Nation changed the price stickers at stores like Wal-Mart, Target and Kmart in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and North Carolina.

He would get two vacuum cleaners worth \$499 each and put the UPC code of a \$55 cleaner on one of them," said Steve Wilson, the Walker County sheriff. "Then when he checked out, the clerk would scan the one with the lower price twice, and he would leave with a \$1,000 worth of cleaners for \$110."

Police said Nation, who sold some of the items on eBay, is an example of a career shoplifter.

"They actually take orders and go and get it," said Chris Crossen, the Dalton police department spokesman.

Popcorn choking death

NY VALLEY STREAM — A 3-year-old boy choked to death while eating popcorn at a movie theater.

Deontea Riley, of New York City, was at the Sunrise Multiplex Cinemas in Long Island's Valley Stream watching "Alien vs. Predator" with his parents and older brother when he began to choke shortly before 7 p.m. Sunday, Nassau County police said.

The family all had been eating from a small tub of popcorn when Elaine McIntosh, the boy's mother, saw that her youngest son was choking.

His parents rushed him out of the theater where they performed the Heimlich maneuver without success.

"I was trying everything," his father, Eddie Riley, told the Daily News in Tuesday's editions. "I was trying to put my finger down his throat. I didn't feel anything."

Police arrived shortly afterward and tried to clear the boy's mouth and perform CPR, but he was pronounced dead at Mercy Medical Center in Rockville Centre.

Kudzu solution

TX DALLAS — For the past few weeks, Bill, Vi, Pearl and Smiley have been contentedly munching away while enjoying some of the best views of the Dallas skyline.

The four goats are a low-tech solution to a stubborn problem, said Monte Anderson, whose company, Options Real Estate, is developing a new mixed-use center named Dilbeck Court.

But in the midst of the high-end restoration and construction, Anderson encountered a growing problem: rampant kudzu, which has become a major pest plant throughout the South, covering trees, utility poles, old cars and



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

even homes.

Dale Groom, Dallas County horticulturist for the Texas Cooperative Extension service, said live-stock experts have found that goats are indeed an effective way to control kudzu.

Twisting history

PA MOUNT JERZO — The Kinzua Viaduct, a railroad bridge that was once the longest and tallest in the world, has been taken off the National Register of Historic Places because of a tornado that ripped apart the engineering marvel last July.

But what really bothers state historians is the date on which that decision was made official: July 21, the one-year anniversary of the tornado whose 94 mph winds toppled the trestle.

"I was struck when I saw that it had been removed ... on the exact anniversary date," Greg Ramsey, who works for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Bureau of Historic Preservation, said Monday.

Officially, the viaduct was removed from the register because the storm damage ruined its "integrity" — that is, the structure's soundness and similarity to its original condition.

The Rendell administration decided it could not afford an estimated \$45 million to rebuild the bridge.



Feline savior

Mystic Conn., Fire Lt. Jeremy Knapp carries to safety one of many cats rescued from a house fire in Grotton, Conn.

Election apathy

CA VENTURA — Nearly half of Ventura County's local November elections are uncontested, including races in nine school districts, six water districts and two city councils.

About 17 percent of mayoral races and 4 percent of council races in California go uncontested, according to a 2002 study by a nonpartisan research group.

Developing nature

MI HARRISON TOWNSHIP — A developer bought a 155-acre forest and wetland that Macomb County township had planned to acquire for a nature preserve.

Harrison Township was to pay \$1 million for the property. Developer Guy Rizzo offered an additional \$250,000. Township Supervisor Mark Knowles said Rizzo told him he would let residents use the land for "passive" recreational uses.

Banned T-shirts

AL WETUMPKA — Elmore County students can no longer wear T-shirts bearing the Confederate flag, a picture of Malcolm X or any other emblems that could be considered offensive.

Students can wear clothing depicting the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The county Board of Education voted to change its dress code to adhere to its harassment policy, said James Myers, assistant superintendent. It defines harassment as anything that distracts students or faculty from completing work.

Impeachment documents

CT HARTFORD — The Connecticut Legislature released more than 85,000 pages of documents that were used in the impeachment investigation of former Gov. John G. Rowland. The documents include tax forms, personal letters, and details of Rowland's financial investments.

Legislative attorneys are sifting through another 400,000 pages of documents to determine which should be made public under Connecticut's open government laws.

Cutting flight

HI HONOLULU — Hawaiian Airlines has bid aloha to Molokai, making its last flight to the island.

Hawaiian announced in June that it was cutting the only daily flight to the island because of low passenger turnout. Commuter airlines are expected to pick up Hawaiian's passenger and freight business on Molokai.

Vintage rail cars

MO KANSAS CITY — Directors of Union Station hope a new, permanent attraction of 11 vintage rail cars will bolster flagging attendance at the city's historic train depot.

The cars date from the first half of the 20th century and contain 200,000 items from the era, including dining-car china and vintage travel posters.



If you can't take the heat...

A firefighter shields his face from the heat as he walks past the historic International Order of Odd Fellows building that was set on fire by a wildfire in French Gulch, Calif.



Mooove bird brain

A Cow grazes in a pasture among white birds along rural Alabama 21, near Camden.



My little pony

James Walsh, of Tuscarora, Md., and his miniature horse are silhouetted against one of the open doors in the Midwest Livestock and Expo Center in Springfield, Ohio, as he waits to show the small equine at the Mid America Miniature Horse Show.



Overcome A Lukin, Texas, police officer carries Jessica Hutchison, widow of slain Bossier City police officer Trey Hutchison, after she fainted following funeral services for her husband at First Baptist Church in Bossier City, La. Hutchison was shot and killed answering a 911 call.



Organic harvest Dennis Dierks, left, and his wife Sandy Dierks walk on their organic farm after harvesting some vegetables and apples in Bolinas, Calif.



Free fall for fun John Barlow, center, and his children, Jonathon, 9, left, and Lauren, 11, hold on tight as the Super Shot amusement ride plummets to the ground at the 55th Annual Prince William County Fair near Manassas, Va.

Geico returns

IN TRENTON — GEICO returned to the Garden State, 28 years after leaving it because of mounting losses.

The company is the second insurance outfit to enter the state since insurance reform legislation was signed 14 months ago. Investor Warren Buffett, whose Berkshire Hathaway company owns GEICO, said the state's insurance reform and get-tough approach on fraud helped lure GEICO back.

Presidential planter

AK LITTLE ROCK — A University of Arkansas student began planting 94 trees and shrubs on an island in the Arkansas River near the Clinton Presidential Library.

Jon Raney has spent the summer researching the state's flora and organizing tree plantings for the 30-acre park, where the presidential library is to open Nov. 18.

Boxer fatally stabbed

TX SAN ANTONIO — A boxing champion from South Texas was found stabbed to death on Monday, police said.

Robert Quiroga, 34, was pronounced dead Monday morning at University Hospital in San Antonio.

A passer-by on Interstate 10 flagged down an officer, who found Quiroga lying next to his car, San Antonio police spokesman Sgt. Gabe Trevino said.

Quiroga, nicknamed "Pikin," or little hot pepper, for his scrappiness in the ring, was the first San Antonio boxer to win a major world title.

He beat Juan Polo-Perez in 1990 in England, winning the International Boxing Federation super flyweight title.

Chemical weapons ruling

OR PORTLAND — A judge refused a request to halt the incineration of aging chemical weapons at the Army's Umatilla Chemical Depot by a group that says the process is not safe.

Judge John A. Wittmayer on Monday agreed with the state and with civilian contractor Washington Demilitarization Co. that the request for an injunction would best be heard in the state Court of Appeals.

Another case involving the destruction of Cold War-era weapons at Umatilla is already pending in that court.

Order to cut acid rain

NY ALBANY — In response to a court loss in the spring, the state is ordering emergency regulations to force power plants to reduce emissions blamed for acid rain in the Adirondacks and Catskills.

State Environmental Conservation Commissioner Erin Crotty announced the order Tuesday along with an appeal of the May decision by a state Supreme Court judge in Albany.

Power plants had sued the state over its anti-pollution regulations. The judge found the state had

missed a deadline to adopt the regulations, but upheld the state's right to establish the strict measures.

"New York state is fully committed to achieving the objectives of Governor Pataki's Acid Rain Initiative which will result in a significant decrease of harmful acid rain pollutants," Crotty said.

Happy homecoming

IN KOKOMO — A pregnant tortoise missing for about a week was returned home unharmed in an Army duffel bag.

David and Brenda Morris said they discovered their 90-pound African Spur Thigh tortoise named Mother on their front porch Sunday in the city about 50 miles north of Indianapolis.

Mother had been missing since someone was seen about a week ago taking her from the couple's backyard. David Morris said the theft brought him to tears, comparing it to "waking up and finding your 13-year-old son or daughter missing from your home."

When she was found Sunday, Mother was hungry but otherwise safe, the owners said.

Stadium ceremony

WA SEATTLE — Alexis Russo and Chris Lundberg found the perfect place to tie the knot: in a field. A football field.

About 260 guests attended the wedding of Russo and Lundberg, a 21-year-old Seattle Seahawks fan — on Sunday at Qwest Field, the NFL team's stadium.

"We met through the Seahawks and now we're getting married here at the stadium," Lundberg said. "I can't think of a more perfect spot to have it."

Each has been attending Seahawks games since childhood.

Mutual friends introduced them at a sports bar before a game last year after Russo began studying communications at Arizona State University. Lundberg had recently moved to Phoenix to work as a firefighter.

Musical Marine

MI ROMULUS — Bagpipes are seldom, if ever, heard at the L.C. Smith Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

But the men playing them Monday, 1st Sgt. Dwayne Farr of the U.S. Marines, had just come home from a place where they were just as unlikely to be heard: Fallujah, Iraq.

Farr unpacked his bagpipes in the baggage claim area, assembled them and performed the "Marine Corps Hymn" and "Amazing Grace."

The Marine Corps flag was mounted on a pipe as he played. "Afterward, some people shook Farr's hand; one man said, 'I'm proud of you.'"

Farr, 38, of Detroit, spent seven months in Iraq. He was reunited with his wife, Roxanne, 35, and their sons, Marcus, 14, and Dwayne Jr., 15, who live in Occidente, Calif., and with other relatives who live in Detroit.

His battalion lost nine Marines, including one from his company.

Stories and photos from wire services

YOUR MONEY

E-mail scams offer millions

BY PETE ALFANO

Knight Ridder

FORT WORTH, Texas — As the caller identified himself as Barrister Fred Omoba and said he was representing Madam Rose Chimere. He was following up on an exchange of e-mails about transferring millions of dollars to my bank account on behalf of "Madam Rose," as he called her.

Government red tape threatened to tie up her fortune, Madam Rose had written, and wanted to find an offshore account to stash it. I would be well compensated for my assistance.

Imagine my good fortune. Not only was Madam Rose interested in sharing her wealth with me, but there were at least a dozen other e-mails in my folder promising to make me an instant millionaire.

Who needs the lottery? Anyone with an e-mail account is probably familiar with solicitations like the one from Madam Rose. In fact, you also may have received one from her.

These are examples of advance fee fraud, or "419 fraud," so-called for the section of the penal code that addresses fraud in Nigeria, where this scam is believed to have originated.

Although the stories seem preposterous, some people can't resist these get-rich-quick schemes, beckoned by visions of early retirement, an easy way out of debt, or a life of luxury.

Someone wants you to become

Borrowing cash online is dangerous gamble

BY HELEN HUNTLEY

St. Petersburg Times

Need some fast cash? The Internet is loaded with companies eager to provide it. They advertise small short-term loans — usually up to \$500 — with fast approval and overnight electronic delivery of the cash to your bank account. Bad credit? No problem.

But you'd better be the gambling type. Taking out a loan over the Internet could be even more dangerous to your financial health than borrowing money at the check cashing place down the block — and that's saying a lot.

a partner in a business venture, or to help a member of royalty or the aristocracy, a deposed government official or a grieving widow transfer assets to a bank account in your government's hands.

All you have to do is pay "up-front fees" so that a bank account can be opened in your name and the funds transferred to you.

The trouble is, the scam artists keep coming up with additional fees, until they have cleaned you out of your savings — or until a light finally goes on and you realize that you've been had.

The FBI's Internet fraud complaint center estimates that victims of 419 fraud lose an average of \$3,400 each.

"I've been in law enforcement for 27 years, and I'm amazed how

gullible and foolish people can be, from the rich and famous to the guy on the street," said Mark Lowery, special agent in charge of the Secret Service field office in Dallas.

Advance-fee fraud now has spread beyond Nigeria to South Africa, Dubai and Iraq, among other countries. It is one of the most elaborate and lucrative Internet scams.

The scheme has been around for years, law enforcement officials say, originally in the form of letters or faxes. It has spread like a computer virus with the growth of the Internet.

"A vast majority of people will get a big laugh and delete the e-mail," Lowery said. "But I've seen other people throw away their life savings, thinking they

hit a great windfall. And I've seen a pretty smart business individual lose hundreds of thousands."

In Nigeria, scam artists are said to operate out of Internet cafes where they send hundreds of e-mails daily, like a fisherman casting a net. They are trying to ensnare unsuspecting "phish," as victims are called on the Internet.

Some of the more brazen come-ons ask for bank account and other personal information in the first e-mail. If you take the bait and give your phone number, you can be sure the scam artists will call.

Barrister Omoba, representing Madam Rose and probably using an alias, spoke with an accent. His voice was muffled as well, making him all the more difficult to understand.

When he eventually was informed that he was speaking to a reporter who was skeptical about the business venture, and about whether Madam Rose even existed, he was undeterred.

But he finally hung up when the questions persisted and he was asked to theorize why he reported had received so many other similar e-mail propositions to share millions.

"These crooks make themselves very believable. They gain the confidence of people on the

Don't count on regulators to police the Internet, said Christopher Peterson, a University of Florida law professor and author of "Taming the Sharks: Towards a Cure for the High-Cost Credit Market."

"For state governments to effectively regulate Internet payday lenders is extremely challenging," he said.

"It's not really on the radar screen for most legislators and courts."

The only good news is that low-income consumers who have the most difficulty with payday loans are less likely to have Internet access.

other end of the phone," said Tom Kelley, a spokesman for the Texas attorney general's office. "They say, 'I need a little more money, a little more,' shredding it out. A lot of people send hundreds of thousands out there into space."

Web-based groups such as www.scamvictimsunited.com, www.scamorama.com and Artists against 419 monitor the Internet and dispense advice.

Artists against 419 also conducts monthly "flash mobs," a vigilante effort that shut down fraudulent bank sites by overloading the servers with thousands of simultaneous "hits."

The Web site operators also use "scam baiting" as a tactic, leading the fraudsters on, then turning over the information they gather to law enforcement agencies around the world.

"The level of our work has become quite professional," said Lou Vauder, the screen name for a man who is a member of Artists against 419 and lives in Wiesbaden, Germany. "We have established contacts with Scotland Yard, the U.S. Secret Service and South African police forces."

But the best deterrent against Internet fraud, he says, is to follow a few golden rules. The most notable: "If it sounds too good to be true, it isn't true."

TUESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

52-week		INDEXES		Net Chg		% YTD 52-week	
High	Low	Points	Last	Points	Chg % Chg %	High	Low
10,812.34	10,814.47	Dow Jones Industrials	10,812.34	+2.15	+0.20	+2.15	+0.20
3,212.25	2,695.59	Dow Jones Transportation	3,212.25	+1.21	+0.37	+1.21	+0.37
286.15	234.64	Dow Jones Utilities	286.15	-.41	-.14	-.41	-.14
10,781.92	10,781.92	NASDAQ Composite	10,781.92	+1.21	+0.11	+1.21	+0.11
1,278.81	956.45	AMEX	1,278.81	-.61	-.05	-.61	-.05
1,764.93	1,764.93	Nikkei Composite	1,764.93	+1.21	+0.11	+1.21	+0.11
1,163.23	983.57	S&P 500	1,163.23	+2.17	+0.19	+2.17	+0.19
407.39	349.47	S&P 400	407.39	+1.21	+0.30	+1.21	+0.30
696.42	471.92	Russell 2000	696.42	+1.21	+0.17	+1.21	+0.17
11,711.14	11,711.14	FTSE 100	11,711.14	+1.21	+0.11	+1.21	+0.11

NYSE		AMEX		NASDAQ	
Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)
Apple 27,645	23.00	Apple 27,645	23.00	Apple 27,645	23.00
Microsoft 21,011	31.00	Microsoft 21,011	31.00	Microsoft 21,011	31.00
Amazon 17,535	18.00	Amazon 17,535	18.00	Amazon 17,535	18.00
Google 10,781	14.00	Google 10,781	14.00	Google 10,781	14.00
Yahoo 10,781	14.00	Yahoo 10,781	14.00	Yahoo 10,781	14.00
Meta 10,781	14.00	Meta 10,781	14.00	Meta 10,781	14.00
Alibaba 10,781	14.00	Alibaba 10,781	14.00	Alibaba 10,781	14.00
Netflix 10,781	14.00	Netflix 10,781	14.00	Netflix 10,781	14.00
Netflix 10,781	14.00	Netflix 10,781	14.00	Netflix 10,781	14.00

Key Defense Stocks		Key Mutual Funds	
Name	Net Chg	Name	Net Chg
Alliant Techsystems	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58
Aradigm	1.58	First Fund	1.58

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates		Commercial rates	
Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
British pound	\$1.26	British pound	\$1.26
Swiss franc	0.75	Swiss franc	0.75
Japanese yen	0.007	Japanese yen	0.007
South Korean won	0.002	South Korean won	0.002
Chinese yuan	0.15	Chinese yuan	0.15
Indian rupee	0.015	Indian rupee	0.015
Thai baht	0.025	Thai baht	0.025
Philippine peso	0.05	Philippine peso	0.05
Indonesian rupiah	0.00001	Indonesian rupiah	0.00001

Precious Metals		Interest Rates	
Price	Price	Rate	Rate
Gold	\$403.20	Prime rate	4.50
Silver	\$6.68	Discount rate	2.50
Palladium	\$1,100.00	Federal funds market rate	1.25
Platinum	\$900.00	3-month bill	1.47
		6-month bill	1.47
		1-year bill	1.47
		Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com	

Don't be baited by scams

CBS MarketWatch
NEW YORK — Twenty-eight percent of adults fail to accurately identify "phishing" e-mails, reports MailFrontier, a company specializing in antispam and e-mail security.

To tell the real correspondence from the bait:
■ Call or send a separate e-mail to the institution. Use contact information that you know to be accurate.
■ Type Web addresses directly into your browser window, instead of following links contained in the e-mail. This will

help you avoid fake sites linked to the message.
■ Verify the correct password at the first prompt, recommends Consumer Reports. Copycat sites will accept a fake password, while the Web sites won't.

■ Check that you're submitting information over a secure Web site. You should see an unbroken key or a lock at the bottom of your browser. Double-clicking on that icon will display the site's security certificate. Check that the company name matches that of the site you're visiting.
■ Test your phishing knowledge at www.mailfrontier.com.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelex: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. High temperatures in the low 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the low 60s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. High temperatures in the high 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the high 50s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly cloudy. High temperatures in the high 80s and tomorrow morning's low in the high 60s.

France: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers and thunderstorms. High temperatures in the high 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the mid 60s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers and thunderstorms. High temperatures in the high 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the high 50s.

Southern Germany: Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with rainshowers. High temperatures in the high 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the high 50s.

Hungary: Sunny. High temperatures in the low 90s and tomorrow morning's low in the low 60s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. High temperatures in the mid 80s and tomorrow morning's low in the mid 60s.

Southern Italy: Sunny. High temperatures in the high 90s and tomorrow morning's low in the low 70s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. High temperatures in the high 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the mid 50s.

Norway: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. High temperatures in the low 70s and tomorrow morning's low in the mid 50s.

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy. High temperatures in the low 80s and tomorrow morning's low in the high 60s.

Turkey: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. High temperatures in the low 90s and tomorrow morning's low in the low 70s.



AFRICA

Cape Town	HI 80	LO 74	Mogadishu	HI 84	LO 73
Dakar	HI 78	LO 73	Nairobi	HI 78	LO 59
Freetown	HI 82	LO 74	Rabat	HI 80	LO 64
Harare	HI 86	LO 67	Tripoli	HI 90	LO 70

THE WORLD

Amsterdam	HI 80	LO 74	Manila	HI 80	LO 74
Bahrain	HI 82	LO 73	Mexico City	HI 74	LO 45
Beijing	HI 87	LO 67	Montreal	HI 75	LO 57
Beirut	HI 87	LO 74	Riyadh	HI 111	LO 68
Bermuda	HI 75	LO 76	Rio de Jan	HI 88	LO 64
Buenos Aires	HI 86	LO 66	Sao Paulo	HI 89	LO 68
Helsinki	HI 73	LO 58	Sofia	HI 84	LO 64
Hong Kong	HI 85	LO 82	Sydney	HI 61	LO 50
Jakarta	HI 80	LO 64	Tokyo	HI 93	LO 79

MIDEAST

Incirlik	HI 90/77	Turkey	Mazar-e-Sharif	HI 106/78	Afghanistan
Tel Aviv	HI 89/72	Israel	Ashgabat	HI 100/71	Turkmenistan
Cairo	HI 95/74	Egypt	Kabul	HI 94/61	Pakistan
Baghdad	HI 110/78	Iraq	Islamabad	HI 87/72	India
Tehran	HI 100/81	Iran	New Delhi	HI 92/77	
Kuwait City	HI 116/81	Kuwait	Kandahar	HI 100/72	
Dhahran	HI 110/84	Saudi Arabia	Zahedan	HI 96/65	
Dubai	HI 107/86	UAE	Bombay	HI 85/78	

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at <https://ows.smbach.af.mil>
<http://hqs.ows.smbach.af.mil>

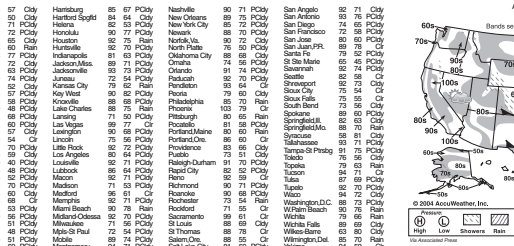
SUN & MOON

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (Baghdad)	06:29	06:29
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	06:50	06:22
Sunset (Baghdad)	19:45	19:44
Sunset (Frankfurt)	20:38	20:36

TODAY'S STATE SIDE OUTLOOK

Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57
Alaska, Tex.	HI 71	LO 64	Colorado Springs	HI 74	LO 57

THE UNITED STATES TODAY



Scheduled to **ETS** or **PCS**?

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STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

Zeta-Jones stalker competent for trial

A woman accused of stalking and threatening actress Catherine Zeta-Jones is mentally fit to stand trial, a court-appointed psychiatrist said Monday in Los Angeles.

Dr. Kal Sharma examined Dawnette Knight, 33, in jail, where she is being held on \$1 million bail. Superior Court Judge John Riley Jr. halted criminal proceedings July 30 and ordered a mental evaluation of Knight after she overdosed on barbiturates while in county jail. Riley scheduled a status hearing for Sept. 8.

Riley is charged with one felony count of stalking and 24 felony counts of making criminal threats. If convicted, she could face up to 19 years in prison.

Lane, Brolin tie the knot

Diane Lane and Josh Brolin are married, but their publicist is under orders not to say when, where or how. Spokeswoman Kelly Bush confirmed the nuptials but said her clients banned her from saying anything else besides "they're hitched."

Lane, 39, the star of "Unfaithful" and "Under the Tuscan Sun," had been engaged to Brolin, 36, since August 2002.

Brolin is the son of actor James Brolin and stepson of Barbra Streisand.

Ashcroft greets son back from Gulf

Attorney General John Ashcroft, accompanied by security personnel, showed up at naval station in Norfolk, Va., to greet his son, whose ship had returned from duty in the Persian Gulf region.

But for Ashcroft and his wife, Janet, Sunday's homecoming wasn't just a family reunion. He said his son, Ensign Andy Ashcroft, needed help moving into a new apartment. "I brought the pickup truck," Ashcroft told WVEC-TV of Norfolk.

The younger Ashcroft said he had their day all planned. "I am going to put them all to work right away," he said with a grin.

Andy Ashcroft is assigned to the Aegis guided missile destroyer USS McFaul. The McFaul left Norfolk Feb. 19 as part of the Wasp Expeditionary Strike Group and has patrolled the Indian Ocean, Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Trial date set for Love drug case

A trial date has been set for Sept. 30 for Courtney Love, who faces two felony drug charges for illegal possession of painkillers.

Love, 40, remains free on her own recognizance.

The rock singer fidgeted in her chair during Monday's 10-minute hearing before Superior Court Judge Elden S. Fox in Los Angeles.

When he asked whether the trial date was acceptable, Love initially replied, "I don't know." She agreed to the date after consulting with her lawyer and thanked the judge before leaving.

Love could face up to three years and eight months in prison if convicted on both charges of possessing oxycodone and hydrocodone.

Love, the widow of Nirvana singer Kurt Cobain, was formerly the lead singer of the band Hole.

Eunice Shriver released from hospital

Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who was hospitalized for a week for hypothermia after a sailing trip, has been released.

Shriver, 83, became chilled after an 8-hour sailing trip. Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston spokeswoman Donita Boddie said Shriver was released Saturday.

Shriver is the mother of Rose and Joseph Kennedy's nine children and the mother of Maria Shriver, the television journalist who is married to California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. She is the sister of U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy and former President John F. Kennedy.

Shriver founded the Special Olympics and is married to Sargent Shriver, the first director of the Peace Corps.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Speaking his mind

Off the radar since the 1980s, John Landis releases a new documentary and a slew of opinions on Hollywood

BY PATRICK GOLDSTEIN

Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD — When John Landis visited the Paramount Pictures lot last year, he was surprised to find himself greeted everywhere with a burst of nostalgic warmth.

"When the guard waved me in, he said, 'Good to see you, Mr. Landis, you making a picture here?'" Landis recalled. "As I was walking across the lot, people were leaning out of their windows, saying, 'John, how are you? Are you making a picture here?'"

Landis is enough of a film buff to recall the scene in "Sunset Boulevard" in which Gloria Swanson, playing the faded silent movie star desperate for a last hurrah, sweeps into Paramount to make her long-awaited comeback. Savoring the connection, Landis erupts in booming laughter, saying, "I felt just like Norma Desmond!"

He's entitled to feel a cool shiver of Desmond-like angst these days. In the late 1970s and 1980s, Landis was Hollywood's reigning comedy king. His 1978 hit, "Animal House," made John Belushi an instant star and spawned a flood of raunchy comedies that stretch from "Porky's" to "Police Academy" to "American Pie" and "Old School." His first hit, 1977's "The Kentucky Fried Movie," launched the career of the Zucker brothers. He directed what are arguably Eddie Murphy's best films, "Trading Places" and "Coming to America."

Landis also did the original "Blues Brothers" film, the influential horror-comedy "An American Werewolf in London," as well as "Thriller," a 17-minute music video starring Michael Jackson that was released in 1983 and became a pop music landmark.

How quickly Hollywood turns its back on its old media tickets.

Although he's only 53, barely older than Swanson when she made "Sunset Boulevard," Landis is a forgotten man in today's film business. He worked nonstop for 20 years, his career surviving the 1983 incident in which he was absolved of responsibility for the death of actor Vic Morrow and two small children during the filming of "Twilight Zone: The Movie." But it has now been six years since he made a studio film and 16 years since he had a real hit with 1988's "Coming to America." His most recent film, a low-budget crime thriller called "Susan's Plan," went straight to video.

"It's not me that changed; it's the studios," Landis said during a marathon interview, in which he spun colorful tales about his encounters with such directorial icons as Alan Dwan, Ronald Neame and Federico Fellini. "I have no doubt that 'Animal House' wouldn't be made today by a major studio. If you read 'Animal House's' screenplay, it was very present and smart, but smart isn't what they're doing now. Look at the kind of movies they're making — did you see 'Troy'?"

For all his complaints, Landis has no bitterness, just the kind of overwhelming, strong opinions that have earned him a reputation as a "my way or the highway" filmmaker. He almost overwhelms you with his enthusiasm, extolling the joys of everything from "A Connecticut Yankee in King

Arthur's Court" ("It's the American 'Das Kapital,' except as a comedy!") to "Spider-Man 2," his friend Sam Raimi's new film, in which Landis has a cameo as a surgeon. When he's on a roll, his voice booms like a fighter jet crashing the sound barrier.

"I'm not the kind of guy to hire if you want to make a franchise picture," he said. "If you hire me, I have an opinion, which is why I turned down the last four studio films I was offered. Because they were all bad!"

Landis keeps busy producing TV and shooting commercials. He also edited the 2001 edition of "The Best American Movie Writing," in which he made room for two pages of vitriolic quotes about critics.

But his real breakthrough comes from a new documentary, "Slasher," now playing on the Independent Film Channel. Set in Memphis, Tenn., giving Landis the opportunity to employ a wall-to-wall soundtrack of Stax-Volt R&B hits, it focuses on Michael Bennett, a hard-drinking, fast-talking salesman who is apparently good at only one thing — selling cars. A hired gun, Bennett flies to Memphis, where he serves as the ringmaster of a carnival-like price-slashing sale for an overstoked auto dealership. Bennett knows every trick in the book, using the offer of an \$88 car to lure suckers to the lot, but emerges as a surprisingly sympathetic character, even dutifully calling his wife back home to let her know he's going out to a strip joint.

As shrewd and socially conscious as it is funny, the film opens with a montage of U.S. presidents telling whoopsters to the American people, from "I am not a crook" to "I did not have sexual relations with that woman."

"Originally, I was going to use a lot more material showing how Bush used salesman-ship and misdirection to sell us a war like a used car," Landis explains. "But Bennett turned out to be much more complex than I'd imagined. For me, the story was like a cross between 'Glenlivet Glen Rose' and 'The Music Man.'"

Landis blames much of his reputation for being mercurial on the media's "Twilight Zone" trial coverage, which portrayed him as arrogant and imperious. But he deserves ample blame himself — he has no sense of politeness. When he bumped into New York Times critic A.O. Scott at a film festival this month, instead of currying favor, as most industry people would, Landis complained, "Why did you write such a hateful review of 'Garfield'?"

"John's gotten mellower as he's gotten older," says manager Bernie Brillstein, who produced "The Blues Brothers." "But he got so hot so quick that he thought he'd invented show business. People were just waiting for him to fail."

Landis insists that he's not unemployable — he simply spurns offers because he can't stomach the scripts.

"I just turned down a project the other day," he says. "And all they did was offer me more money!"

At least no one can accuse Landis of losing his sense of humor, even about himself. When the director became famous, he visited Fellini, who understood little English but was a big fan of "The Blues Brothers." After a long lunch with the maestro, Landis' wife told him, "I finally understand the key to appreciating your work. It's imperative that you don't speak English."



Brolin and Lane



LATIP

Movie director John Landis keeps busy producing, shooting commercials and making a new documentary.

Horoscope

The Libra moon could have you searching for your other half. Whether your focus is love or business, you get the feeling that the right partner could take you all the way with your endeavors. This is partially true, but be sure you're doing all you can on your own — it's the only way to attract the support you need. Your aesthetic sense is important.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(August 19). You feel passionate about exploring and growing your gifts. Loved ones help you launch into a dream project in the next 10 weeks. "Your resources grow as your network does, so make plenty of public appearances through January — you have the charismatic power to attract just the people who will make your life more enjoyable."

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

As the sign of all things fresh and new, you'll once again be representing the cutting edge. Expect a mixed reaction. Physically, you're at a high. It's the perfect day to try supplements or exercise techniques.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

You're not a beast of burden, but when friends and family lay their hands on you, you could mistakenly take it on as your own. The day's lessons include learning to be empathetic without needing to "save" anyone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

You'd rather wing it than plan a single event today, but do give a thought to where you'll be five years from now (how boring! how impossible what for?). No matter how you protest, the future is based on actions taken today.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You're anxious to find a way around tedious work. Do brain teasers and crossword puzzles (or whatever your mental exercise of choice may be). The experiences around the corner require you to be in fine intellectual shape.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

You're going through a growth spurt in your personal life. Small wins help you get back in touch with that sense of

exhilaration you felt as a child when you accomplished something that surprised you — "Hey, Mom, look at me!"

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Social graces help you put a course to popularity. It's not that you care about being liked, but it's easier to find your way when friends in all ports are pointing you in the right direction. Plus, you prefer operating in a refined world.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Loved ones depend on you for almost everything. Expect a phenomenon that has you feeling a little put out. Consider that by allowing others to let you do all the thinking, you're making them weak. Let clear ones fend for themselves.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

The stars act together to double your pleasure (your pain, your money and your inconvenience). Whatever you think will happen happens times two. Planning for unexpected costs is the surest way to not get caught guard.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

You're a skilled risk taker, and your fortune multiplies when you make educated financial leaps. Moral dilemmas arise. You don't have to sell out to achieve what you want — in fact, not selling out is exactly the point.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

The lighter you are — physically, mentally and spiritually — the more gracefully you'll be able to navigate through the tricky turns this day brings. Leave the old baggage behind. All you really need would fit into a tiny pouch.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

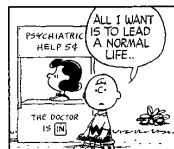
When the situation calls for seeing the best in people, you're the one for the job. Others will rise to your opinion of them. You're greeted by smiling faces everywhere you go — because you yourself are wearing a friendly grin.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

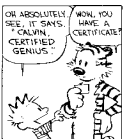
You're tempted to let your problems consume you. Don't give them that kind of power! In three days, you'll realize you were making mountains out of molehills. You must take time to nourish your spirit.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts



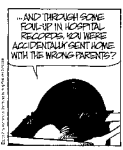
Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



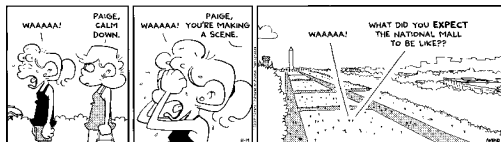
Red and Rover



Better or Worse



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



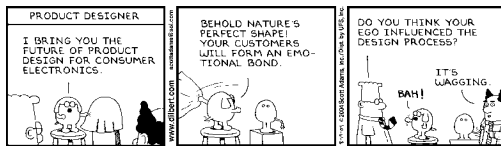
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



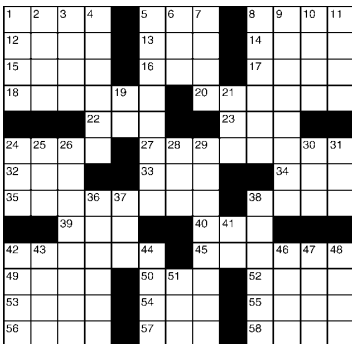
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 In addition
5 Stir-fry vessel
8 Somewhere out there
12 Willy Wonka's creator
13 Rage
14 One of HOMES
15 More than eager
16 Kathie — Gifford
17 Cincinnati squad
18 Human, e.g.
20 Deacon's superior
22 Parisian pal
23 Deviate off course
24 Kasparov's soldier
27 Sweet wine from California
32 Blackbird
33 Jane Smiley novel
34 Prune
35 Nymph who became Ursa Major
38 Rorschach picture
39 Fond du —, WI
40 Buck's mate
42 Pencil pusher?
45 Breathe with difficulty
49 Sewing machine inventor
50 Foreman foe
52 Deuce beater
53 Verve
54 Hodges of baseball

Down

- 55 Old Italian bread
56 Salamander
57 Sushi offering
58 Grandson of 1-Down
1 Leading man
2 Kilauea flow
3 Doorstop, often
4 He played Oswald in "JFK"
5 Boston Pops VIP
6 Raw rock
7 Refuse to relinquish
8 Forward pass
9 Volition
10 Leads a hand
11 Whatever's left
19 Exist
21 Catcher's place?
24 Lobbyist org.
25 Literary collection
26 Sudden violent wind
28 Part of NIMBY
29 Benevolence
30 Bill's partner
31 Suitable
35 Untapped
37 Bar supply
38 Scarab
41 "I see"
42 Timely
43 question
44 Portrayal
45 Fashion
46 "— Brockovich"
47 Zilch
48 Sight-seers?
51 Whopper

Answer to Previous Puzzle



8-19

CRYPTOQUIP

FS VSD CYPRE CYJC J
TSRJNCIHV'N KIJFPRU
TSRE QSDKF WI QJKKIF

CRYI WPU WHSCYIH?
Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF A SAILOR
RETALIATES AGAINST SOMEONE, I GUESS
YOU MIGHT SAY THAT'S AN AYE FOR AN AYE.
Today's Cryptquip Clue: C equals T

SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

(All times Central European. AFN-A: AFN-Atlantic; PACF: AFN-Pacific; Korea: AFN-Korea; and delayed. Live coverage is available from AFRTS and subject to change without notice.)

Television

Baseball — 1. N.Y. Yankees at Minnesota, 7 p.m. Thursday (dtd). SPT: Atlanta at Los Angeles, 9 a.m. Friday (dtd). SPT: World Golf Championship NE Invitational: 1st round, 9 p.m. Thursday (dtd). SPT: 2nd round, 9 a.m. Friday (dtd).
Olympics (live Telecasts listed as "live" at the end of the frequency are live feeds of NBC's tape-delayed coverage of events of the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. For live coverage to local TV outlets for real-time coverage):

6:35 a.m. Thursday (AFN-A, PAC) — Women's volleyball: USA vs. Dominican Republic; Spain: women's time: live: World Cup.

Day 5

1 p.m. Thursday (SPT) — Men's basketball: USA vs. Australia (live); Men's water polo: USA vs. Hungary (live).

6:30 p.m. Thursday (AFN-A, PAC) — Swimming: Men's 100m freestyle; Women's 100m freestyle; Men's 200m freestyle; Women's 200m freestyle; Men's 400m freestyle; Women's 400m freestyle; Men's 800m freestyle; Women's 800m freestyle; Men's 1500m freestyle; Women's 1500m freestyle; Men's 500m freestyle; Women's 500m freestyle; Men's 1000m freestyle; Women's 1000m freestyle; Men's 2000m freestyle; Women's 2000m freestyle; Men's 4000m freestyle; Women's 4000m freestyle; Men's 8000m freestyle; Women's 8000m freestyle; Men's 16000m freestyle; Women's 16000m freestyle; Men's 32000m freestyle; Women's 32000m freestyle; Men's 64000m freestyle; Women's 64000m freestyle; Men's 128000m freestyle; Women's 128000m freestyle; Men's 256000m freestyle; Women's 256000m freestyle; Men's 512000m freestyle; Women's 512000m freestyle; Men's 1024000m freestyle; Women's 1024000m freestyle; Men's 2048000m freestyle; Women's 2048000m freestyle; Men's 4096000m freestyle; Women's 4096000m freestyle; Men's 8192000m freestyle; 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Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League											
East Division						IP H R ER BB SO					
New York	66	52	14	.783	0	5/3	9	5	0	0	4
Boston	57	61	5	.484	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Tampa Bay	55	64	29	.463	29 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Detroit	41	76	34	.348	23 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago	49	69	26	.415	6 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Oakland	42	76	34	.360	13 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Seattle	35	73	38	.321	21 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Central Division						IP H R ER BB SO					
Minnesota	63	55	11	.531	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Cleveland	53	65	22	.435	2 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Detroit	53	65	22	.435	2 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago	49	69	26	.415	6 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Oakland	42	76	34	.360	13 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Seattle	35	73	38	.321	21 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
West Division						IP H R ER BB SO					
Toronto	64	53	11	.558	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Baltimore	64	53	11	.558	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Tampa Bay	51	66	15	.435	13 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Detroit	41	76	34	.348	23 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago White Sox	38	79	41	.321	26 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Minnesota	35	73	38	.321	26 1/2	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Tuesdays's games						IP H R ER BB SO					
Boston	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Oakland	11	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Tampa Bay	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Detroit	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago White Sox	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Minnesota	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Oakland	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Seattle	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Wednesday's games						IP H R ER BB SO					
Oakland	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Seattle	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago White Sox	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Cleveland	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Seattle	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Oakland	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago White Sox	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
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Seattle	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
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Chicago White Sox	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
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Cleveland	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Chicago	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3	8	5	0	3	2
Seattle	5	1	0	1.000	-	5/3					

Teixeira becomes second Ranger to hit cycle

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Mark Teixeira needed only a single to hit for the cycle, and his Texas Rangers teammates wanted to see him make baseball history.

"They were kidding me, telling me to trip over first base if I hit one into the gap," Teixeira said.

Teixeira lined a single to center off Cliff Bartosh, becoming the second player in Rangers history — and first in more than 19 years — to hit for the cycle, leading Texas to a 16-4 victory over Cleveland on Tuesday night.

"I just wanted to swing at a good pitch," said Teixeira, who went 4-for-5 and drove in a career-high seven runs. "I didn't want to get myself out on my last at-bat."

He also hit a two-run double in the third, a three-run homer in the fourth and a two-run triple in the fifth. It was the club's first cycle since Oddibe McDowell accomplished the feat on July 23, 1985, against the Indians at Arlington Stadium.

"This gave us a chance to relax," said Kevin Mench, who fell a triple short of also hitting for the cycle. "The game was a part of history."

Teixeira is the fifth player to hit for the cycle this season, joining Milwaukee's Chad Moeller, Pittsburgh's Daryle Ward, Philadelphia's David Bell and the New York Mets' Eric Valenz.

Teixeira left for a pinch-runner after his single, leaving to a standing ovation from the crowd of 24,864 with his team ahead 16-1.

He showed little emotion as he came off the field.

"Anything you're up to 16-1, you

AL Roundup

never want to show the other team up, show too much on the field," Teixeira said. "I was definitely happy and excited inside, but you don't want to be celebrating in a situation like that."

Teixeira's big day helped the Rangers stretch their winning streak to five games and gave Scott Erickson his first victory in more than two years.

Erickson (1-2) allowed one run and three hits in six innings, and won for the first time since Aug. 7, 2002, while with Baltimore.

"It was a relief to get all those runs," he said. "I'm just glad the Rangers are giving me a chance to pitch on a regular basis."

Doug Brocail pitched the final three innings for his first save since July 7, 1999, with Detroit.

Texas stayed a half-game behind Oakland in the AL West, while Cleveland dropped 3½ games behind Minnesota in the AL Central.

Cliff Lee (10-5) allowed a career-high eight runs and seven hits in 3½ innings for the Indians, who are 1-7 against the Rangers.

"They have had our number all season," Indians manager Eric Wedge said. "We've got to separate ourselves from this, come out tomorrow and be ready to go."

In other AL games Tuesday:

Devil Rays 8, Angels 3: B.J. Upton became the first teenager to homer in a major league game since Pittsburgh's Aramis Ramirez on June 16, 1998, helping Tampa Bay stop a six-game



Texas first baseman Mark Teixeira became the second Ranger ever to hit for the cycle in a 16-4 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Tuesday night in Arlington, Texas. Oddibe McDowell was the only other Ranger to accomplish the feat — also against the Indians — on July 23, 1985.

losing streak with a home victory.

The 19-year-old Upton, the No. 2 overall pick in the 2002 amateur draft, homered in the third on his 37th career at-bat with an opposite-field shot to right off Kelvin Escobar (7-9).

Mariners 16, Royals 3: Ichiro Suzuki went 4-for-4 and drove in a career-high five runs, leading the team to a home run for the second straight day for visit-

ing Seattle.

Bret Boone hit two homers and had four RBIs, and Raul Ibanez had a career-high five hits and scored four runs for Seattle, which set season highs for runs and hits (20).

Athletics 11, Orioles 0: Tim Hudson (8-4) pitched a five-hit, struck out four and walked none in his first victory since June 11, and Scott Hatteberg's

second grand slam of the season highlighted a four-homer attack.

Jermaine Dye, Eric Byrnes and Adam Melhuse also homered for the visiting A's, who have outscored Baltimore 14-1 in the first two games of the three-game set.

Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 4: Orlando Cabrera hit a run-scoring double off the Green Monster in the ninth inning on reliever Justin Speier's second pitch of the game, giving Boston the victory.

Pinch-hitter Dave Roberts drew a leadoff walk and Johnny Damon hit into a forceout off Kevin Frederick (0-2). Cabrera, 13-for-65 since he was acquired July 31, hit a drive off the left-field scoreboard. The ball bounded high in the air as Damon came around and slid in ahead of Kevin Cash's tag.

Twins 8, Yankees 2: At Minneapolis, Brad Radke (8-6) allowed one run and six hits in seven innings to improve to 4-9 against New York, and Corey Koskie drove in three runs as Minnesota ended a 13-game regular-season losing streak against the Yankees that dated to 2001.

Tigers 11, White Sox 8: Bobby Higginson hit a three-run homer in the second inning and a two-run drive in the fourth, and visiting Detroit hit four homers off Freddy Garcia (10-10).

Chicago was without manager Ozzie Guillen, who was hospitalized and might have kidney stones. Guillen also served the first game of a two-game suspension.

Walker's tear continues with slam

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Larry Walker has learned quickly that St. Louis Cardinals' fans know how to celebrate.

Three Womack scored the go-ahead run on a bases-loaded walk from Danny Graves in the eighth inning and Walker hit the next pitch for a grand slam in the Cardinals' 7-2 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday night.

Walker has three homers and is hitting .370 in nine games with St. Louis, which acquired the 1997 NL MVP from Colorado on Aug. 6.

He earned his first curtain call with the Cardinals.

"They pushed out of the dugout to get out there, not sure knowing what to do," said Walker, who hit his sixth career slam. "It was fun to get out there, it was fun to win, it was fun to hear the crowd get as loud as they were."

The NL Central leaders are 13-2 against the Reds this season and will try to complete a three-game sweep Wednesday night. St. Louis opened a 15-game lead over second-place Chicago — the Cardinals' largest advantage since Aug. 10, 1968, a year they won the NL pennant.

Cincinnati led 2-1 in the eighth before Jim Edmonds greeted

NL Roundup

Graves (1-5) with an RBI single.

Cal Eldred (3-0) gave up one hit and

struck out two in a scoreless eighth.

Giants 5, Expos 4: At San Francisco, Barry Bonds homered twice, Jason Schmidt pitched eight strong innings before his bullpen blew his chance to become the first 16-game winner in the major leagues and J.T. Snow singled home the winning run off Luis Ayala (4-9) in the ninth.

San Francisco has won six straight and leads San Diego by a game in the NL wild-card race.

Dustin Hermanson (5-5) blew his first save in five chances, allowing Tony Batista's tying single. Schmidt left with a right groin injury after coming out to start the ninth.

Padres 11, Braves 6: Jake Peavy (9-3) struck out nine in seven innings, allowing only a second-inning single by Andrew Jones and a fourth-inning home run by Chipper Jones that extended his streak of games with home runs to five.

Freddy Guzman got a hit, scored a run and had an RBI in his major league debut for the

homestanding Padres.

Jaret Wright (11-6), who had been 9-0 in 14 starts since May 22, forced in a pair of runs with bases-loaded walks and allowed five runs, three hits and five walks in just two-thirds of an inning.

Brewers 3, Cubs 1: At Milwaukee, Victor Santos (10-8) improved to 3-1 against the Cubs this season, allowing five hits in 6½ innings, including Sammy Sosa's 26th homer. Santos later hit five straight decisions since beating Chicago on July 16.

Dan Kolb pitched the ninth for his 34th save in 37 chances.

Carlos Zambrano (11-7) lost for the first time in four starts, and Chicago fell 1½ games out in the wild-card race. Bill Hall hit a two-run triple for last-place Milwaukee.

Dodgers 6, Marlins 1: At Los Angeles, Wilson Alvarez (7-3) allowed an unearned run in seven innings to win his fourth straight decision, and Steve Finley and Adrian Beltre homered.

A.J. Burnett (3-6) allowed three runs, four hits and two walks over six innings and struck out nine as Florida dropped 5½ games out in the wild-card race.

Astros 5, Phillies 0: Roy Oswalt (13-8) combined with Mike



St. Louis right fielder Larry Walker tosses his bat after flying out in the fifth inning against the Cincinnati Reds in St. Louis on Tuesday. Three innings later, Walker hit a grand slam in the Cardinals' 7-2 victory. Walker is hitting .370 since being acquired by the Cardinals.

Gallo and Dan Miceli on a five-hit, and Raul Chavez hit a three-run double as Houston won for the third time in nine games.

Randy Wolf (5-8) allowed five runs and six hits in seven innings. The Phillies (59-60), 1-7 on their homestand and under .500 for the first time since May 7, are six back in the wild-card race and Astros are 6½ games behind.

Rockies 6, Mets 4: At Denver, Jason Jennings (11-10) allowed three runs and seven hits in seven innings, had two hits and drove in a run. Matt Holliday drove in the

go-ahead run with a solo homer off Dan Wheeler (3-1) in the sixth.

Pirates 7, Diamondbacks 1: Craig Wilson and Ty Wigginton homered, and Ryan Vogelsong (4-9) allowed one run and six hits in seven innings as visiting Pittsburgh won its fourth straight.

Arizona has lost 16 of 17 and dropped to 7-35 under interim manager Al Pedrique. Stephen Randolph (2-3) gave up two runs, four hits and three walks in three innings. His first major league start for Arizona after 89 relief appearances.

Giants QB Manning to get first NFL start

The Associated Press

Eli Manning will start for the New York Giants in Thursday night's game in Carolina, but that doesn't mean the first pick in April's NFL Draft has beaten out Kurt Warner for the starting quarterback job.

"It's a rotation that I planned to do all along," coach Tom Coughlin said. "It's Eli's turn. Eli will go. He'll start. Last week was Kurt. This week it's Eli."

Warner, signed by the Giants after being released by St. Louis, started the Giants' first game, a 34-24 victory over Kansas City last Friday.

"The decision coming in was that they were going to compete for the job," Coughlin said. "Therefore, we were going to give both of them the opportunity to start, and this week is Eli's opportunity."

"I didn't know what their feeling was; how they were going to go into the preseason," Manning said. "I guess they want to give me a shot to see how I do against a starting defense and see if I can manage a game well."

Warner did not seem upset.

"The only fair way in a competitive situation like this is to give guys the same opportunity," Warner said. "It wasn't a surprise. It wasn't disappointing. It's part of the deal I expected going in, and leave it at that."

NFL camps

Kicker Bill Gramatica had back spasms at practice and his status for the game against Carolina is uncertain.

Eagles: Defensive end N.D. Kalu will miss the season after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee during Tuesday's practice.

Kalu started 16 games last year and finished third on the team with 5½ sacks.

Coach Andy Reid said Derrick Burgess will start at right end, with Jerome McDougle getting additional playing time.

Raiders: Left tackle Robert Gallery, the second player taken in the NFL Draft, didn't practice Tuesday morning because of an elbow injury, leaving his status uncertain for Saturday's preseason game against Dallas. Gallery hyperextended his elbow during a blocking drill Monday.

Redskins: Washington cut Ifeanyi Ohaile, who started 15 games at strong safety last season. Ohaile, beaten for a 68-yard touchdown pass in a 23-20 overtime loss to Carolina on Saturday, had lost his starting job when the Redskins drafted Sean Taylor and shifted Matt Bowen to strong safety.

Jaguars: Veteran guard Mike Compton is scheduled for surgery on an injured



Top overall draft pick Eli Manning, who got a six-year, \$45 million contract, completed seven of 13 passes for 91 yards in his first NFL game Friday against Kansas City.

thumb that will keep him out 10-14 days.

Coach Jack Del Rio said Tony Brackens, the franchise's career sacks leader, would be out longer than one week with a strained muscle in the back of a knee.

Titans: Coach Randall Lanning said a \$650 million football stadium in Arlington and to place the project in voters' hands.

Arlington council members unanimously voted to place a referendum on the Nov. 2 ballot asking voters to increase sales and other taxes to pay for half of the retractable-roof, 75,000-seat stadium that would be among the NFL's largest.

Mayor Robert Cluck said Arlington, halfway between Dallas and Fort Worth, would be the ideal location for the venue, which likely would be built next to the Texas Rangers' American League Field.

Arlington council approves Cowboys stadium vote

ARLINGTON, Texas — City Council members gave initial ap-

proval Tuesday night for a deal with the Dallas Cowboys to build a \$650 million football stadium in Arlington and to place the project in voters' hands.

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The current contract between the league and its players expires Sept. 15. Bill Daly, the NFL's chief financial officer, and Sankin expressed a willingness to have regular meetings. If a deal isn't in place by Sept. 15, a lockout is expected to be imposed.

As each franchise's meeting wraps up, a lockout shutdown becomes more likely.

"No proposals were discussed or exchanged," Sankin said. "We had a dialogue on both team-specific and industry issues and will continue the dialogue in our next meeting."

"I would not characterize today's meeting as having made any progress in any direction."

the opening days of camp and continued practicing until last Wednesday.

Broncos: Champ Bailey, a four-time Pro Bowl cornerback, split time as a wide receiver during Tuesday's practice.

"I told them I would like to do it," said Bailey. "I intend to do it." Coach Mike Shanahan had no comment on the matter, but watched intently as Bailey ran about 10 plays with the offense.

Jamal Lewis hit with extra drug charge

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis, already facing federal drug conspiracy charges, was hit Tuesday with an extra charge of attempting to possess cocaine.

The charge was included in a superseding indictment, a common move used by federal authorities to refine the original accusations.

Lewis is accused of trying to get the cocaine with his childhood friend, Angelo Jackson. Prosecutors say Lewis and Jackson tried

to buy cocaine in Atlanta in 2000 from an undercover informant.

Both were charged in the conspiracy case in February, but at first only Jackson was charged with attempted cocaine possession. On Tuesday, the government announced both would be charged.

Lewis' lawyers called the extra charge minor and didn't think it would complicate their defense. Lewis has maintained his innocence.

"This is not big news for us," said Lewis' attorney Ed Garland.

In its latest indictment, the government wrote that Lewis took Jackson to a restaurant in Atlanta to introduce him to a woman he

thought could get him cocaine, although the woman waiting there was an informant.

Lewis called the informant two weeks later and asked her to sell Jackson a kilogram of cocaine, according to the indictment.

Among Lewis' charges is the use of a telephone to facilitate a felony.

Lewis' trial is scheduled to begin Nov. 1 in Atlanta. The running back has said he will not let the trial distract him from the upcoming season.

Arlington council approves Cowboys stadium vote
ARLINGTON, Texas — City Council members gave initial ap-

NHL labor talks yield no progress as lockout looms

BY IRA PODELL

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The NHL and the players association moved no closer to a collective bargaining agreement during a five-hour meeting Tuesday. In fact, the sides took a slight detour.

During the third negotiating session in six weeks, the NHLPA formally rejected six proposed concepts put forth by the league that were discussed in the previous two meetings. Talks then shifted to a general discussion of league and specific team economics and operations.

"Today can be more fairly characterized as a side step in the process," NHLPA senior director Ted Sankin said after a meeting in

New Jersey. "We'll have further discussions so that hopefully we can find areas where we are in agreement and build from there."

The next talks will take place two days after week in Ottawa, then resume Aug. 30 and Sept. 1 in Montreal, which will host

World Cup of Hockey games on those nights.

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D. Sanders considering comeback with Ravens

BY JAMISON HENSELEY
The Baltimore Sun

BALTIMORE — Deion Sanders, one of the NFL's greatest cornerbacks, confirmed he is considering coming out of retirement to play for the Baltimore Ravens after weeks of persuasive talks with linebacker Ray Lewis and cornerback Corey Fuller.

A decision from the seven-time Pro Bowl defender is expected within a couple of weeks, a league source said. Sanders would take a low-key role with the Ravens, coming in as the fifth defensive back on passing situations.

"I never say never," Sanders told The Baltimore Sun in a phone interview while school shopping with his children outside Dallas. "It would be a wonderful thing if I got the opportunity to play."

According to a source close to Sanders, he still has "blazing" speed but wants to test his conditioning over the next two weeks before deciding whether to return.

The 37-year-old Sanders, who has been out of football for three seasons, will only come back if he can prove he can perform at a level consistent with what he has come to expect from himself, the source added.

2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Silver: Minor flaws keep U.S. women from gold

SILVER, FROM BACK PAGE

The Americans, meanwhile, sat glumly in their seats. A few clapped. Most simply stared ahead, perhaps thinking about all the wasted opportunities.

"We made small mistakes," Bela Karolyi said. "Small mistakes that are to be paid for. And we paid."

This was supposed to be a team immune to imperfection. It was hand-picked by Martha Karolyi, who carefully chose what she hoped would be the right mix of power, grace, determination and steely nerves.

Last year's world championship team won gold despite losing half of its squad to injury, an awesome display of resilience. With no setbacks, this year's team should easily have been able to match that gold.

But these are the Olympics, and there are no guarantees.

"I never stated a goal," Martha Karolyi said. "That was a major competition out there. We're happy because we pulled ourselves back up to the medal stand."

The Americans' problems began in the unlikely of places and with the unlikely of people. The uneven bars is the team's strongest event, and Patterson usually is at her best under pressure.

But as she flew from the low bar, she landed too close to the high bar and hit it at a dead stop. With no momentum, she had to muscle her way up to a handstand, but it was slow and looked awkward. With her rhythm off, she clipped the low bar on her next swing around, and even the crowd winced.

"I thought it was good she kept the routine moving and did as well as she could," U.S. coach Kelly Hill said.

But Patterson was visibly upset, and she hurried to the sideline after seeing her score of 9.287. Evgeny Marchenko, her coach, tried to console her with a pep talk and a pat on the back, but Patterson was having none of it, her lips pursed and face pinched.

"She was so successful the first day, sometimes it's just hard to keep at that level," Martha Karolyi said.

Terin Humphrey and Kupets managed to take away some of the sting with dazzling routines. Kupets, the world champion on bars in 2002, flits and flies with the ease of a bird. When she hit the mat with a solid thud, she arched her back, puffed out her chest and grinned brightly.

Her score of 9.662 lifted the Americans into first place, but it would be a fleeting stop.

After Alexandra Eremia and Porcu put up the two highest scores on the balance beam, the Americans needed to be perfect to match them. Instead, they started out in a hole when Kupets was pulled from the lineup with a sore right hamstring.

Bhardwaj replaced Kupets, and she gave a clutch performance with only 10 minutes to practice. She landed three straight back handspins, and she did a back aerial somersault from a standing position easier than most people can do a cartwheel.

"Mo stepped up to the plate and did a phenomenal job for us," Hill said. "She anchored the team cold, and we were very excited for her to do that."



Carly Patterson had the arena rocking with her floor routine; her mistakes came later on the bars.

She made several slight errors, though, including cutting out one move after wobbling on a somersault landing — and she paid for it with a 9.4 that dropped the Americans behind the winners.

"I was a little stressed out given the amount of time I had," Bhardwaj said. "Mentally I wasn't completely prepared, but I thought I did well with what I was dealt."

The Americans had one last chance at gold but quickly gave it away.

Prancing and dancing to an infectious percussive beat, Kupets had the audience clapping along. She was grinning, clearly having fun, until it was time to do what looks like a simple dance move.

Spinning in place like a ballerina in a music box, Kupets lost her balance and stumbled out of the pirouette. The crowd gasped, her smile disappeared.

Such a little error, such a big price.

Olympics scoreboards

Wednesday's scores

BASEBALL	7. Andrey Karpalov, Russia, 43.30.
Netherlands 10, Italy 4	
Australia 9, Japan 4	
BASKETBALL	
Czech Republic 88, China 83	
Australia 97, Japan 78	
United States 80, South Korea 57	
FIELD HOCKEY	
Men	
China 3, Spain 0	
Netherlands 4, Germany 1	
SOCCER	
Men	
United States 7, Canada 5, 11 innings	
TEAM HANDBALL	
Men	
Croatia 25, South Korea 26	
Poland 20, Slovenia 25	
France 26, Hungary 23	
Greece 26, Egypt 25	
VOLLEYBALL	
Men	
Dominican Republic 3, United States 2	
23-25, 19-17	
South Korea 3, Kenya 0 (25-16, 25-20, 25-19)	
Cuba 3, China 2 (25-19, 22-25, 19-25, 25-21)	
Japan 3, Greece 1 (22-20, 20-25, 25-21, 25-22)	
WATER POLO	
Australia 9, Kazakhstan 5	
United States 5, South Korea 5	
Russia 5, Hungary 5	
Italy 7, Greece 2	

Swimming

Men	
100 Freestyle	
1. Pieter van den Hoogenband, Netherlands, 48.17	
2. Roland Mark Schoeman, South Africa, 48.23	
3. Ian Thorpe, Australia, 48.56	
4. Pyk Weidling, South Africa, 48.63	
5. Filippo Magnini, Italy, 48.99	
6. Radoslaw Zabawa, Croatia, 49.23	
7. Salim Isma, Algeria, 49.30	

Stennis, Williams

BY HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Andy Roddick hit one last errant shot into the net and hung his head, his medal hopes over. A short while later, Venus Williams was gone, too.

In back-to-back stunners at the Olympic tennis tournament, Roddick was upset by No. 16 Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-4, 6-4, and defending gold medalist Williams lost to Mary Pierce of France 6-4, 6-4. Both were third-round matches.

"I'm gutted right now. It's not every day we get to play this," Roddick said. "You can't say, 'Next year.'"

Late in his match, some spectators began chanting "Chile! Chile!" When a group of Roddick's fans responded with "U-S-A! U-S-A!," they drew bows and whistles.

For the first time since tennis returned to the Olympics as a medal sport in 1988, no U.S. woman will win a singles medal. That's because in addition to Williams' exit, No. 16 Chanda Rubin lost to No. 2 Amelie Mauresmo of France 6-3, 6-1, and Lisa Raymond was eliminated by Alicia Molik of Australia 6-4, 6-4.

"Just a pretty rough day for Americans," U.S. coach Zina Garrison said.

Some stuck around, though. Mardy Fish got past Max Mirnyi of Belarus 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, and Taylor Dent beat Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia 6-4, 6-4 to reach the quarterfinals.

Martina Navratilova, in her first Olympics at age 47, and Raymond advanced to the doubles quarterfinals when their opponents, Mauresmo and Pierce, pulled out. Mauresmo developed a rash from a skin allergy during her win over Rubin.

Williams, whose bid for a second straight doubles title ended in the first round, was broken in the last game of each set against Pierce, a two-time major champion who'll face No. 1 Justine Henin-Hardenne next.

Other quarterfinals: Mauresmo vs. No. 5 Svetlana Kuznetsov of Russia, Molik vs. No. 8 Ai Sugiyama of Japan, and No. 11 Francesca Schiavone of Italy vs. No. 3 Anastasia Myskina of Russia or Elena Dementieva of Russia.

Williams was largely her own undoing, with 51 unforced errors and five double-faults, including on match point. She said she was hampered by her sister Serena's last-minute withdrawal from the Olympics with a left knee injury.

"That was over a week ago, and in sports, that's ages ago," Venus said.

Roddick had a chance to extend his match in the final game, getting four break points, but he failed to convert any. That was a pattern through the match: Roddick wasted his chances, and Gonzalez converted his.

Gonzalez wallops each shot with all his force, and he was on target Wednesday, delivering 23 winners to Roddick's six.

Volleyball

Venus Williams, Russia, 21-15, 8-15, 8-15.

Track and field

Men	
Shot Put	
1. Yuriy Bilyalov, Ukraine, 21.16, 69-5/4	
2. Adam Nelson, Athens, Ga., 21.07, 69-5/4	
3. Joachim Bjork, Denmark, 21.07, 69-1/4	
Women	
Shot Put	
1. Irina Korshakova, Germany, 12.65, 69-1/4	
2. Tunde Lunkin, Hungary, 12.65, 69-1/4	
3. Nadine Kleinert, Germany, 12.55, 64-1/4	

Cycling

Men's Time Trial	
1. Tyler Hamilton, Marblehead, Mass., 57:21.74	
2. Vlastislav Klokun, Russia, 57:50.56	
3. Michael Rogers, Australia, 58:01.67	
4. Michael Rogers, Australia, 58:01.67	
5. Michael Rasmussen, Kazakhstan, 58:58.14	
6. Jani Urponen, Germany, 59:02.04	
7. Santiago Botero, Colombia, 59:04.76	

Women's Time Trial

1. Leontien Zijlaard-van Moorsel, Netherlands, 31:11.53	
2. Deirdre Demet-Barry, Boulder, Colo., 31:52.6	
3. Karin Thuerig, Switzerland, 31:54.89	
4. Christine Thorburn, Vancouver, B.C., 32:14.62	
5. Lada Kostikova, Czech Republic, 32:15.41	
6. Genovea Wood, Australia, 32:16.00	
7. Joane Somarriba, Spain, 32:25.93	
8. Zuzanna Jurga, Poland, 32:25.93	

Archery

Women	
Individual 70m	
1. Alison Williamson, Britain, def. Shi Chu Yuan, Taiwan, 105-109	
Gold Medal	
1. Park Sung-hyun, South Korea, def. Lee Sung-jin, South Korea, 110-108	

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2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Americans pull out victory over Greece

Odom's late defensive play helps U.S. avoid further embarrassment

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — In past Olympics, defeating a mediocre team such as Greece by a mere six points would be cause for alarm for the United States.

In 2004, it's reason for a collective sigh of relief.

The U.S. men's basketball team was breathing easier Tuesday night after their first victory of the Athens Games.

A 77-71 win over the host country that rebounded once again how difficult success will be for the Gang That Can't Shoot Straight.

A 4-for-21 effort from three-point range, 13 missed free throws and 19 turnovers translated into a tough night for the Americans, who won despite Tim Duncan fouling out, Allen Iverson playing with a broken thumb and Lamar Odom fighting off severe dehydration to come up with the defensive play that ended the home team's last hope.

In other games, Spain again looked like the class of the field with an 87-76 victory over Argentina, Yao Ming scored 39 points to push China lead New Zealand 69-62, Lithuania defeated Puerto Rico 96-90, Serbia and Montenegro edged Italy 74-72 and Australia defeated Angola 83-59.

After two games, Spain (Group B) and Lithuania (Group A) are the only remaining undefeated teams. The top four teams from each six-team group advance to the quarterfinals.

The Americans' primary weakness — outside shooting — was again exploited by an opponent that needed its defense into a tight zone.

Greece had a chance to pull within two with 18 seconds left, but Odom defended the key play of the game perfectly, holding his head steady and high and getting a piece of Dimitris Papanikolaou's layup attempt.

Odom rebounded the miss and made two free throws to lock up a victory that helped keep the United States — coming off a humbling 19-point loss to Puerto Rico — from doubling its Olympic loss total from the previous 68 years.

"We wanted to play this one and get that out of our heads," Duncan said.

The game was a spectacle in many ways, from U.S. coach Larry Brown angrily gesturing at the referees to the raucous Greek fans taunting the Americans with chants of "Puerto Rico!", singing soccer fight songs and waving blue and white flags.

"Believe it or not, I think we'll make an outside shot someday," said Brown, who again expressed anger at his players for failing to accept the different roles he needs them to play.



Allen Iverson of the United States smiles during a 77-71 victory over Greece on Tuesday at the Helliniko Indoor Arena in Athens. Iverson, who played with a broken thumb, scored 17 points.

Iverson scored 17 points, 13 of them in the first half, and Duncan had 13 of his 14 points in a third quarter in which he picked up his second, third and fourth fouls, setting the stage for a tight fourth quarter.

The Americans led 64-61 when Duncan returned with 5:46 left, and 67-63 when he fouled out some two minutes later on a questionable loose-ball foul that left him staring in disbelief and Brown pointing in anger at the official who called it.

Odom and Stephon Marbury scored inside to give the Americans breathing room, though a drive by Antonis Fotsis made it a four-point game with 1:10 left.

Carlos Boozer then came up with the Americans' biggest field goal of the night, rebounding Shawn Marion's missed three-pointer from the corner and banking it in for a 74-68 lead.

A three-pointer by Greece made it 75-71, and Boozer missed two free throws to give Greece a chance to get within two.

Odom wouldn't let it happen.

"I just tried to stay down, keep my body in front of him and make him shoot the ball over me," said Odom, who was up all night with a stomach virus and needed a 5 a.m. visit from his doctor because of dehydration. "It was able to deflect it a little bit, and that was a big win for our team."

A turnover by Greece after Odom's free throws with 15.5 seconds left finally quelled the crowd and ended the suspense. "That was the loudest arena I've ever been in," LeBron James said. "That was electrifying."



U.S. shooter Kimberly Rhode, above, edged South Korea's Lee Bo Na for the gold in women's double trap Wednesday. Rhode is a two-time gold medalist in the event, which is being dropped from the Games.

Rhode wins double trap '96 champ takes gold again in event's final Games

BY DAVID MORDKOFF
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — American Kim Rhode won the gold medal in double trap Wednesday, staking a unique claim as the first and last winner of the Olympic event.

Rhode won the 1996 gold when double trap was introduced in the Atlanta Olympics, and she now owns the 2004 medal in the event, which is being eliminated. She won the bronze in 2000.

"It's an amazing feeling," said Rhode, of El Monte, Calif. "I don't think it's quite sunk in yet that I've won. It usually hits me when I get home."

In women's 25-meter pistol, Maria Grozdeva of Bulgaria won the gold medal, while Louka Hlykova of the Czech Republic won the silver and Irada Ashumova of

Shooting

Azerbaijan took the bronze. Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Callahan of the U.S. Army Reserve finished tied for 19th with Yukari Konishi of Japan in the event.

Rhode and Lee Bo Na of South Korea were tied at 110 entering the 20-round final. Both hit their first four sets of targets, and soon distanced themselves from the rest of the pack. Rhode was the last shooter to miss in the final, failing to hit the second target in the 10th round.

Tied after 13 rounds, Lee missed the second target on her 14th turn, while Rhode hit both to take the lead. She did not trail again in the competition.

After hitting one of two targets on her final attempt, Rhode turned around and didn't immediately celebrate.

"I didn't really know where I stood," she said. "I wasn't too sure when I walked off because nobody cheered right away. So when they started cheering, that's when I kind of knew."

Lee finished with a 145, one shot behind Rhode, to take the silver. Gao E of China defeated countrywoman Li Qingnian in a shoot-off to win the bronze.

In double trap, competitors shoot at a pair of four-inch clay targets that exit simultaneously from two of three underground bunkers. They are allowed one shot per target.

Rhode will compete in skeet later in the Olympics, and in future Games games plan on shooting skeet and trap.

Navy rower reaches finals

Lt. j.g. Nuzum, Abdullah advance in double sculls after photo finish

BY BRETT MARTEL

The Associated Press

SPHINIA, Greece — The early success of the first black Olympic rower on the U.S. men's team and his Navy officer partner was supposed to end Wednesday.

Then came a furious comeback. And a photo finish. Now Aquil Abdullah and Lt. j.g. Henry Nuzum will be racing for a medal Saturday.

The duo finished in a dead heat with Norway for third place in their semifinal race. By sharing the last qualifying spot, they forced a rare seven-boats final and gave themselves reason to believe more good things are ahead.

"If we put it all together and have a good race then there's no reason why we can't make our dreams come true and be standing there on the podium," said Abdullah, a Washington, D.C. native who played football until friends persuaded him to try rowing during his senior year of high school.

"We get better with each race" added Nuzum, who was twice deployed to Iraq as a Tomahawk missile officer. "We can keep the pattern going."

Abdullah and Nuzum started racing double sculls together this season in a sport dominated by crews with more established chemistry. Their best finish had been 10th in a World Cup race.

They certainly impressed the Norwegians, who initially were told they finished fourth.

Nils Sonnesen and Morten Adnassen tracked down the Americans to congratulate them. Sonnesen told them to "do something in the final" and threw a friendly punch to Nuzum's chest.

Norwegian team officials looked at the photo finish, thought it was inconclusive and asked for a review by FISA, rowing's governing body. Officials agreed and went with the unusual tie, allowing both boats to advance.

After a poor start that left them last in the six-boat final, Abdullah and Nuzum picked up the pace



Aquil Abdullah, left, and Navy Lt. j.g. Henry Nuzum appeared to edge the team from Norway in the men's double sculls semifinals, but the photo was ruled inconclusive and both moved to the finals.

and finished the 2,000-meter race in 6 minutes, 47 seconds, within three seconds of Italy and France, the top two finishers in last year's world championships.

2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Nelson only medalist for U.S. in shot put

The Associated Press

ANCIENT OLYMPIA, Greece — Adam Nelson remained in the shot put ring for three minutes, pointing and pleading, even as Yuri Bilonog took the flag-draped victory lap that Nelson thought was his.

Nelson had led the entire competition, but Bilonog's final throw tied Nelson for the best of the day at 59.27, 5'10 1/2" (150.9 centimeters). Nelson had one last chance to win, and the intense American unleashed a huge toss — but was called for his fifth consecutive foul.

Since Nelson had no other good throws and Bilonog had several, the Ukrainian won the gold Wednesday, leaving a stunned Nelson standing helplessly at the ancient site that birthed the Olympics 28 centuries ago.

Replays showed Nelson's foot clearly out of the ring. "They said I fouled. I didn't think I did, and they were right," Nelson said afterward.

It was the second straight Olympic silver medal for Nelson, a former defensive tackle at Dartmouth. Denmark's Joachim Olsen won the bronze.

Earlier Wednesday, Russia's Irina Korzhaneenko became the first woman to win a gold medal at the aged venue, where the first Games were held 2,780 years ago for men only.

She recorded the three longest throws of the day, including the winning toss of 69-11 (21.06), the best in the world this year.

The U.S. men had hoped for a medal sweep — they had the top 17 tosses in the world this year, all of them longer than the Greek day's gold-winning distance.

But two-time medalist John Godina failed to reach the final round. He fouled twice and fell short on his final attempt, failing to make the final eight. Reese Hoffa couldn't advance past the morning qualifying session. And

Olympic medal roundup

Chris Cantwell, who on May 6 recorded a world-leading 73 feet, 11 1/2 inches (22.54), said he just tied the U.S. Olympic trials.

Cycling

Men's individual time trial: Tyler Hamilton won the gold, and teammate Bobby Julich picked up the bronze.

Hamilton edged defending men's time trial gold medalist Viatcheslav Ekimov of Russia by about 19 seconds, taking home the first American road gold since 1984 — when Alexi Grew won the road race in Los Angeles.

Women's individual time trial: Leontien Zijlaard-van Moorsel of the Netherlands — who suffered hip and shoulder injuries in a fall late in Sunday's road race — successfully defended her gold medal by covering the 14.9-mile course in 31 minutes, 11.53 seconds. American Dede Barry was 24.09 seconds back.

Equestrian

Team eventing: France won the gold medal in the three-day team event after it lodged a protest against Germany.

Initial results had Germany winning the gold medal and France the silver, while Britain took bronze.

But the French team lodged a protest with judges, claiming that Bettina Hoj of Germany, riding Ringwood Cockatoo, had crossed the start line twice.

The judges agreed, docking Germany 12 points, dropping it from first place to fourth place with 147.8 points.

France finished first with 140.4 points, followed by Britain with 143.0 points. The judges' decision tilted the United States to third, and a medal, with 145.6.

Olympic briefs

The IOC referred the case to the sport's governing body because an immediate sanctions became a "moot point" when the athletes withdrew from the Olympics, IOC spokeswoman Giselle Davies said.

Kenters, the reigning 200-meter Olympic champion, is the country's most celebrated athlete and was Greece's best hope for gold on track at the Athens Games. He was considered a leading candidate to light the Olympic cauldron during the opening cere-

Greek sprinters Kenters, Thanou withdraw from Games

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Greek sprinters Kostas Kenters and Katerina Thanou pulled out of the Athens Games on Wednesday, nearly a week after they missed a drug test and were later hospitalized following a suspicious motorcycle crash.

"I'm withdrawing from the Olympics," Kenters said after meeting with the International Olympic Committee's disciplinary arm.

He also said he cut ties with his coach, Christos Tsekos, who had been suspended by the Greek Olympic Committee, along with the two runners.

The IOC's executive board went ahead with its hearing despite the runners' announcement and later decided to refer the case to the International Associa-

tion of Athletics Federations. The IAAF will discuss the case Aug. 26 but will not rule until after the Games, said Arne Ljungqvist, the group's anti-doping chief.

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Japan's Masae Ueno, right, fights Slovenia's Rasa Sraka in the quarterfinals of women's under-70 kg judo Wednesday. Ueno went on to win the gold.

Archery

Women's individual: South Korea's Park Sung-hyun won the first Olympic gold medal at ancient Panathinaiko Stadium, beating countrywoman Lee Sung-jin in the final.

Tied at 10 after 11 shots, Park scored a 10 with her final arrow. Lee was unable to answer, scoring an 8, to give Park the gold.

Canoe-kayak

Men's single canoe: If not for two seconds, Michal Martikan would have reclaimed his Olympic title from Tony Estanguet.

Estanguet won the gold medal after a post-race review gave Martikan of Slovakia a two-second penalty, making the total time for the 1996 Atlanta Games championship 189.28 seconds.

Women's single kayak: American Rebecca Giddens won the silver medal in the kayaking single slalom, finishing well behind Elena Kaliskis of Slovakia. Helen Reeves of Britain took the bronze.

Judo

Women's under 70 kg: Two-time defending champion Masae Ueno earned Japan's fifth gold medal in 10 judo events, extending her three-year undefeated streak in major international competition.

Men's under 90 kg: Ueno's teammate Hiroshi Uemura wound up with silver when he was defeated in the men's 90kg title match by Zurab Zviadauri of Georgia.

mony, but a Greek windsurfing champion got the honor instead.

Thanou was the 100-meter silver medalist in Sydney four years ago.

The IOC commission has been looking into why the two athletes missed a drug test in the Olympic village last Thursday. A few hours later, they were taken to a hospital with cuts and bruises after they said their motorcycle skidded on a road. The police are investigating.

Tutu-clad Canadian gets five months for Olympic plunge

ATHENS, Greece — A tutu-clad Canadian who jumped into the Olympic diving pool after a competition was convicted Wednesday of interrupting the Games and sentenced to five months in jail. He was released

Vanden Hoogenband defends 100 free title

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Pieter van den Hoogenband of the Netherlands successfully defended his Olympic 100-meter freestyle title Wednesday night.

Van den Hoogenband won the gold medal in 48.17 seconds — 13-hundredths of a second faster than his winning time at the Sydney Games four years ago.

Roland Schoeman of South Africa, who trains at the University of Arizona, took silver in 48.23. Australia's Ian Thorpe earned bronze in 48.56, despite swimming in a far outside lane because he had the slowest qualifying time.

The Dutchman, who holds the world record in the 100, earned his third medal in Athens. He already has won silvers in the 200 freestyle and the 400 freestyle relay.

Thorpe won his fourth medal of these Games. He beat Van den Hoogenband for gold in the 200 freestyle, won the 400 freestyle and helped Australia to a silver medal in the 800 freestyle relay.

The United States failed to advance either of its two swimmers out of the preliminaries.

Women's 200 butterfly: Otylia Jedrezejak of Poland won her third medal of the Olympics, overtaking Australia's Petria Thomas to win gold.

Thomas was under world-record pace halfway through the race, building a body-length lead, but Jedrezejak had enough left to overtake the Aussie in the final 50. The winner touched in 2:06.05, just off her own world mark of 2:05.78 two years ago.

Jedrezejak averaged a loss to Thomas in the 100 fly, winning the first gold medal of her career.

Thomas settled for silver at 2:06.36, while Japan's Yuko Nakanishi edged out American Kaitlin Sandeno for the bronze at 2:08.04. Sandeno was just 14-hundredths of a second behind in fourth, failing to win her third

medal of the Athens Games. Sandeno was set to return later in the evening to anchor the U.S. 800 freestyle relay team.

Jedrezejak is emerging as one of the biggest female stars of the Olympic swimming meet. She already had won a pair of silvers in the 400 free and 100 butterfly before winning her first career gold.

Thomas also is having a superb Olympics. Though she failed to sweep the butterflies, she did add to the two golds she's already won in the 100 fly and 400 freestyle relay.

Women's 800 freestyle relay: The United States smashed swimming's oldest record in winning the relay for the third consecutive Olympics.

Natalie Coughlin, Carly Piper, Dana Vollmer and Kaitlin Sandeno finished in a time-record 7 minutes, 53.42 seconds — more than 2 seconds better than the mark of 7:55.47 set 17 years to the day by the former East Germany.

China earned silver in 7:55.97 and Germany took bronze in 7:57.35.

The United States won the event in 1996 and 2000 — the only other times it's been contested in the Olympics. The Americans also are the reigning world champions.

Piper was the only swimmer retained from the morning preliminaries, when the Americans had the fastest time. Lindsay Benko, Rhi Jeffrey and Rachel Komisarz earned gold medals, too, for their preliminary swims.

Men's 200 breaststroke: Japan's Kosuke Kitajima won gold, completing a sweep of the breaststroke events. Kitajima won in 2:09.44 seconds, ahead of 15-year-old Hungarian Daniel Gyurta and American Brendan Hansen.



Ron Bensimmon, 31, of Montreal, who jumped into the diving pool while wearing a tutu, was sentenced to five months in jail for interrupting the Olympics.

SPORTS

Settling for silver

U.S. women pay big price for few small mistakes

BY NANCY ARMOUR
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — The mistakes were so minor. The kind of errors only judges see.

Carly Patterson's foot grazing the lower of the uneven bars. Courtney Kupets' twirl ending here instead of there. Mohini Bhadrwaj's little-bitty wobble on the beam.

Little things, but added together they cost the U.S. gymnastics team valuable fractions of points and, ultimately, an Olympic gold medal.

Done in as much by their own sloppiness as Romania's sheer superiority, the Americans settled for silver Tuesday night.

"Things happen," Kupets said. "It's disappointing. But what are you going to do?"

Romania finished with 114.283 points, beating the Americans by more than a half-point for its second straight Olympic gold.

Russia, never a factor even with diva Svetlana Khorkina prancing and preening, won the bronze.

Silver is hardly anything to be ashamed of, of course. The U.S. men won one Monday night and were positively giddy. And it's far better than leaving empty-handed, which the U.S. women did in Sydney for the first time since 1976.

But these women are world champions, winners of every international meet they've entered since 2002 and perhaps the best team the United States has ever put on the floor. This was supposed to be their coronation.

Instead, they watched somberly as the Romanians parted on the floor.

"I'm happy because these children have a crown, a medal," Romanian coach Octavi-



American Courtney Kupets, above, reacts after her strong uneven bars routine during the women's gymnastics team final, but it wasn't enough for the favored U.S. women to win gold as members of the team (top) watched the Romanians wrap up the title on the floor exercise. AP

an Belu said.

Patterson closed out the Americans' night with a saucy, sassy floor routine that had the Olympic Indoor Hall rocking. But the Romanians, who finished second to the United States at last summer's world championships, needed to average only 9.35 points per routine to catch the Americans.

Easily done.

Daniela Sofronie soared above the floor on her tumbling passes, flying so high fans sitting in the first few rows had to look up to see her.

Catalina Ponor, the final Romanian, brought the crowd to its feet with one of the finest routines of the night. Her team-

mates were already hugging each other and crying when her music stopped, and Ponor sprinted off the mat with a grin on her face. Even Bela Karolyi, whose wife Martha is now the U.S. team coordinator, had to applaud.

SEE SILVER ON PAGE 29

2004 Athens Olympics: Day 6 highlights

Americans Venus, Roddick, Rubin sent packing in third round

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Navy's Nuzum reaches finals in double sculls in photo finish

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Medal count

Leaders after 69 medal events in the 2004 Olympics on Wednesday, Aug. 18

Country	G	S	B	Total
United States	9	10	8	27
China	11	7	4	22
Australia	6	4	6	16
Russia	3	6	15	
Japan	8	3	13	
France	3	3	10	
Italy	3	4	2	9

Teixeira hits for cycle, leads Rangers to rout of Indians

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